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NOT TRUE BECAUSE IT'S HERE."

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EST. 1935

VOL. LXX No. 4

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SEPTEMBER 22, 2005

McPhail's is the place to be

BY CATE RAUSEO '07
NEWS STAFF

As the evening rush to off-campus bars begins, many students have found a more convenient alternative right on campus: McPhail's. The campus bar has reached a height in popularity this new academic year, attracting patrons with low prices, convenience, and the appealing campus atmosphere.

McPhail's recently began offering drink specials for Monday Night Football games. Miller Light drafts—served in attractive Miller Light pint glasses that students are able to keep—cost students only \$1.50. Other domestic beers and imported beers are \$2.00 and \$3.00, respectively.

"We run a weekly special in McPhail's for Monday Night Football where you get to keep the 22 oz. glass," said McPhail's Assistant Director Todd Incantalupo. "We offer other promotions on certain nights as well. We usually have free stuff to give away on those nights."

According to alumni bartender Tara Leamy '99, the new beer promotions are drawing more students to McPhails than



DENIELLE BALSARI '07/The Cowl

Students cheer as they enjoy Monday Night Football on the big screen in McPhail's. This on-campus bar has become a hot spot this year for various social activities.

in the past.

"I've worked Monday Night Football for the last three years and this year is the best turnout I have seen," she said. "I think it's definitely due to the beer promotions and the new T.V.s."

This past Monday attracted

a crowd of nearly 100 students, many of whom were impressed by the atmosphere and prices.

"You can't beat the prices and it's nice to drink out of a glass instead of a dirty plastic cup," Ian Orefice '07 said, comparing McPhail's to many off-campus

bars in the PC area.

"They have a lot of deals on beer here to keep us on campus. I really like the campus bar atmosphere," says Edward Roos '07.

Steve Haskos '07 agreed, saying, "We love the beer deals. And I would rather stay on campus, especially if it's going to be cheaper."

But it's not just the great deals that bring students down to the bar. As Incantalupo explained, there is a great deal of planning behind many of the bar's most popular nights.

"I think our success is due to the fact that as each year goes by, more and more people have experienced McPhail's and more importantly have had a good time while visiting," Incantalupo said. "We try to have some sort of event happening every night to attract all sorts of students." Incantalupo explained.

However, the bar continues to draw students even on nights other than Monday Night Football or when specific campus clubs and organizations host events in McPhail's.

Incantalupo said the one thing he would like to see is people coming to McPhail's even when

MCPHAIL'S/Page 5

A new day in Ray

BY CHRIS DONNELLY '08
NEWS STAFF

Students will be notice big changes at Raymond Cafeteria this year. The main dining facility for PC students will be improving the aesthetics of the cafeteria and the variety of the food it serves. The Ray staff hopes the facelift will raise the quality of the PC student dining experience and keep students coming back for more. Many students' reactions have already helped validate the staff's hopes.

"You can tell they are trying hard and really care," said Lizzie Lydon '07.

There are now flags hanging from the ceiling and decorations adorning the cafeteria walls. These additions are hoped to provide a more pleasant landscape for which a student can enjoy his or her meal. The decorations will have themes like autumn, football, Halloween, and baseball.

Sodexo aims to keep things fresh at Ray, said Ed Kender, executive chef and operations manager for Raymond Cafeteria. Not only will the decorations change often but there will be weekly themed dinners. These dinners were once a staple of Ray but stopped due to the construction last year.

The first of such dinners was Applefest, which was held on Sept. 21. Because the season of autumn is just beginning, apples were chosen as the theme. A wide array of apple-themed food was available to students, as well as a long buffet of beef, roasted in apples.

Ray also served tortellini sautéed in apple butternut squash, apples marinated in cognac, and ice cream with hot apple crisp. In addition, a variety of apples were available from local orchards.

"Tonight was a really good idea," said Eric Fulford '08. "At least it was something different."

Other themes include "Body, Mind and Soul" on Sept. 28, which will focus on vegetarian dishes and grains, and a jazz theme, which is being planned for late October and will feature St. Louis ribs.

In the spirit of improvement, employees and managers of the cafeteria will begin to approach students and ask them what they think of their dining experience and how to improve it.

"We have a lot of energy this

RAY/Page 5

Half.com books not all half price

BY MEGHAN K. WELSH '06
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

With a new semester at Providence College comes new classes, a routine which normally sends students flocking to the bookstore for textbooks. In the age of Internet shopping, however, many students have now decided to turn to online textbook Web sites for their academic needs.

Half.com is one of the Web sites that has become popular with college students across the country, including many students at Providence College. Most claim that they use the Web site in search of saving as much money as possible.

Katie Ellis '06 searched for "cheap text books" on an online search engine her freshman year and Half.com was one of the first sites that came up. That was four years ago and she claims that the Web site is still helping her save money on expensive textbooks.

Half.com, a Web site affiliated with the Internet auction giant Ebay, works by allowing students to buy and sell textbooks online. While the site does not auction off books to the highest bidder like Ebay does for most of its items, sellers are encouraged to set their own prices. Since thousands of students may be looking to get rid of the same textbook, they must compete with each other, offering their textbooks at low prices.

Sarah Dunn '07 has used Half.com to buy her textbooks and said that while the site didn't live up to its name by actually cutting her costs in half, she "cut costs by about 40 percent of what they would have been."

So everybody sells their textbooks for cheap prices, which allows everyone to buy them for cheap prices. Sounds perfect, right? Maybe not, according to Providence College Bookstore manager Joe Rushworth. There are a number of problems that Half.com may not seem to have at first glance.

For example, Half.com has



SUSIE LUSHER '07/The Cowl

Although some students buy textbooks online, the bookstore at PC has the convenience that keeps students coming back.

a number of biology textbooks for much cheaper than the bookstore, but only if your professor isn't using the most up-to-date

edition, which most professors at Providence College keep up with. Then, a used book at

BOOKS/Page 4

COMMENTARY

Guest writer Kim Ahern '06 explores the reasons for PC's no. 2 ranking by the *Princeton Review* for beer consumption.

PAGE 8

A&E

The pages of DWC come alive at the Sandra Gamm-Feinstein Theatre in Dostoevsky's *Crime and Punishment*.

PAGE 11

INDEX

Campus Calendar.....	2	Arts & Entertainment.....	11
World.....	6	Portfolio.....	16
Commentary.....	8	Roving.....	19
		PC Scoreboard.....	20
		Sports.....	Back Page

Campus Calendar for Sept. 23 to Sept. 29

Submit events at cowlnewsstaff@yahoo.com

23 Friday

6 p.m. PC After Hours Dodgeball Tournament in Peterson.

8 p.m. First Senior Night in McPhail's.

4:30 p.m. Howie Day concert on Hendricken Field.

6 p.m. Dances of Latin America in '64 Hall.

7 p.m. Piano Bar in McPhail's.

25 Sunday

2-5 p.m. Class of 2007 Welcome Back B.B.Q.

7 p.m. Texas Hold'em Tournament in McPhail's.

8 p.m. Monday Night Football in McPhail's.

27 Tuesday

8 p.m. Paris Meets Providence-Crepe Night in McPhail's.

7-10 p.m. S.O.A.R.'s monthly movie "Crash" in Moore Hall III.

8 p.m. South of the Border Night with the Rock in McPhail's.

24 Saturday

26 Monday

28 Wednesday

SANCTIONS

Administrative Review
April 19, 2005
Student Handbook: P. 38
Guilty
Sanctions:
Restitution for Damages
Reflection Paper

Administrative Review
April 20, 2005
Student Handbook: P. 10, 11, 43
Guilty
Student Handbook:
P. 37, 38
Not Guilty
Sanctions:
Fine - \$175
Disciplinary probation
through Dec. 20, 2005

Reflection Paper
Administrative Review
April 20, 2005
Student Handbook: P. 56
Guilty
Sanctions:
Suspension of on-campus parking privileges
Reflection Paper

Administrative Review
April 22, 2005
Student Handbook:
P. 12
Guilty
Sanctions: Fine- \$100
Reflection paper

Administrative Review
May 6, 2005
Student Handbook: P. 36, 38, 40
Guilty
Sanctions: Fine- \$100.
Commencement
Restrictions

Administrative Review
May 10, 2005
Student Handbook: P. 37
Guilty
Sanctions: Fine- \$100

Administrative Review
May 10, 2005
Student Handbook: P. 37
Guilty
Sanctions: Fine- \$100

In last week's issue of *The Cowl*, Rev. Brian J. Shanley '80 O.P. was mistakenly referred to as a member of the Class of 1978. He is in fact a 1980 graduate of Providence College. We apologize for our error.

PEACE RALLY

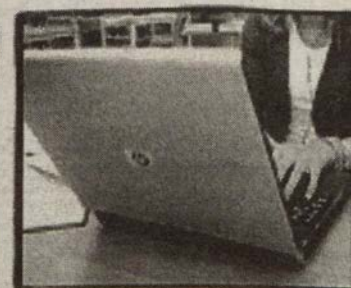
Slavin Lawn
Thursday, 9/22, 7 p.m.

PC Democrats

Share your space, but live on your own.



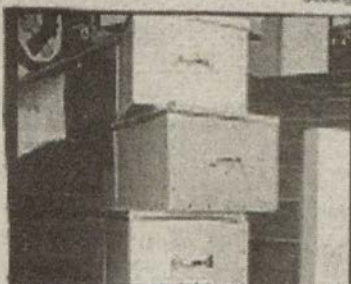
All furnishings pictured are from Wal-Mart



HP Laptop



Bedding



Storage

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New library director Bailey goes beyond books

BY MEGAN COMERFORD '06
NEWS STAFF

This school year is not only characterized by a new president, but also by a new library director.

Dr. D. Russell Bailey, director of Phillips Memorial Library, has been at Providence College for a little more than a month and is already trying to continue improving the library.

Bailey, who came to Providence College from the library at the University of North Carolina, has a doctorate degree in German, with a minor in Library Science, from Louisiana State University.

Having worked as a foreign language and culture professor, in secondary comparative education, and in the field of library and information science, Bailey has come to "view the library as a teaching library."

"The library is an integral partner in the education of undergrads," said Bailey.

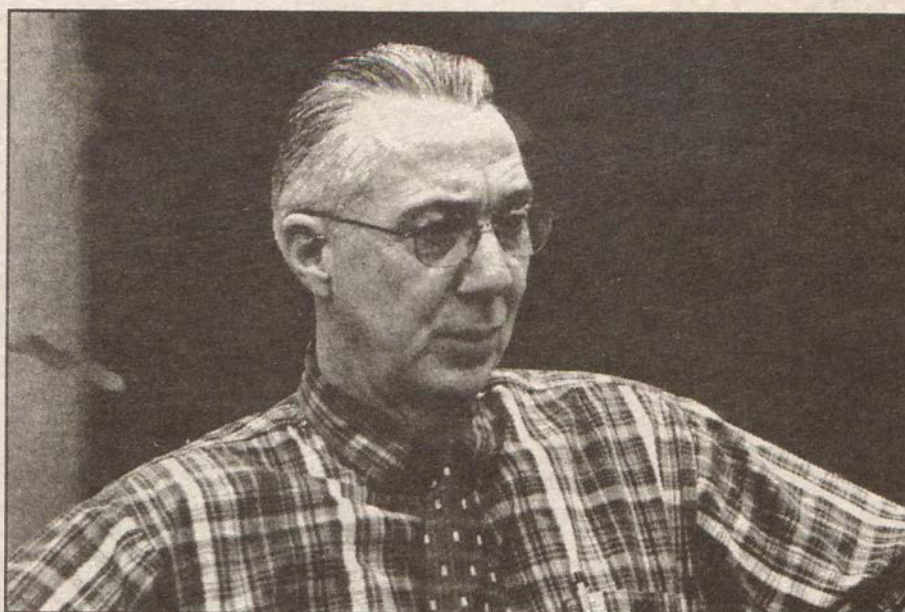
One of Bailey's goals is to more effectively promote the services and resources offered by the library, including the interlibrary loan available via the HELEN Consortium, the online "Find Your Way" guides, the archival, government documents, and microfilm collections, the educational resource library, and the opportunity for bibliographic instruction.

While the UNC library is significantly different from PC's, Bailey believes that the library here is a good one. "The collection is tailored to PC's curriculum . . . [and] there are certain strengths here, especially in theology and the humanities," he said.

"Through the HELEN Consortium . . . we have access to millions of volumes that we can get to you very quickly," said Bailey, who serves on the Board of Directors of HELEN, which recently met at Bryant University to discuss the current year and collaborative projects its members would like to focus on.

Bailey ceded that there are some academic collections in need of attention. "There are some areas where some faculty and students would like to have what they need more quickly," he said.

The natural sciences, for example,



KRISTEN WYNOTT '07/The Cowl

New library director D. Russell Bailey brings worldly experience to Phillips Memorial Library.

need the most current material available. "If they could have what they want, [the library] would be better," said Bailey.

"What I'm doing is trying to figure out how we can use the . . . money we have and the connections we have through HELEN to gain access to resources," Bailey said, adding that he would like to increase the speed and efficiency of interlibrary loans.

Phillips Memorial Library is also "constantly purchasing" books, magazines, journals, and other resources selected by the academic departments.

One problem faced by Providence College and other collegiate libraries, is the rising cost of scholarly journals. According to Bailey, the price rises approximately nine percent each year.

In order to gain access to that information, Bailey is looking to the Open Access Initiative, which is "like an intellectual cop" formed by producers of intellectual capital that provides open access to journals and archives.

"As far as I can tell, we are either now purchasing pieces of all the major collections that we would like to get, or are about to [purchase them]," he said.

Bailey is also keeping an eye to the future and other possible acquisitions. "There are some . . . advanced hypermedia, hyperlinked resources that we don't have access to that are more appropriate to the humanities and the liberal arts," he said, citing a Shakespeare collection that enables simultaneous access to both written versions and scenic clips of plays.

Since Providence College is in the midst

of renovating Phillips Memorial Library, Bailey must also address the details of scheduling and specific improvements.

Ten laptops and 20 desktops have been ordered to add to those already available for student use. More software has also been added onto the computers, making every one equipped with the programs offered on the computers in the electronic resource room.

In terms of the renovation project, Bailey explained that the original plan identified each floor as a separate phase.

"While we may continue in those three chunks . . . I would like to look at bits and pieces of the second phase that we could do, to go ahead and begin sooner rather than later," said Bailey. "We have access to the public spaces on the second floor that we can begin renovating."

"I think it's a good idea, while we have this momentum, to continue," he said, even though that means that portions of the upstairs would be temporarily unavailable for patron use.

Beginning the second phase is a main concern of Bailey's and the library is "in conversation with [Fr. Shanley] and Academic Administration to ensure that this stage takes top priority."

"We have the probability of ending up with having a beautiful facility, including a variety of resources," said Bailey, who mentioned his goal of a high-tech service library, complete with electronic classrooms, a student lounge, an "enhanced presence" of the Office of Academic Services (OAS), and the restruc-

turing of the special collections.

While no additions are planned, the library will "recapture space" that is now being used for faculty offices. According to Bailey, the College has plans to accommodate these faculty members elsewhere.

Bailey, however, hopes to maintain faculty presence in the library. "I foresee a time . . . where we would have some faculty offices in the library, and it would be those faculty [from any department] who are most intent on having their students do a lot of library research . . . so this would truly be a teaching and learning center," he said.

Drawing from his consultation of libraries across the United States, Bailey would like to propose adding a cyber café to Phillips Memorial.

Though this is against the traditional view of a library, Bailey has found that "the patron needs to be able to do as many things as possible" in what he deems a "one-stop shopping model."

"The library can have a large, very substantive intellectual environment, and can have sustenance for the body as well, so I see it as a natural [addition]," he said.

It is this modern view of the library as serving a patron's needs that formed Bailey's connections to various European countries.

"I was brought to Europe to demonstrate to them the types of things that we were doing in our libraries; our libraries are much more patron-needs," he said, noting that European libraries are generally more strict about granting access to their resources.

This past May, Bailey was invited to be the keynote speaker at the Czechoslovakian Republic's national library conference.

"I will go back each year and develop relationships with library professionals," said Bailey, who also has close ties with members of the field in Germany and Austria.

"I'm also active nationally and internationally, so what I hope is that eventually I would be bringing some sort of national symposium" where Providence College's Phillips Memorial Library would serve as a model of a library commons for other universities with renovation plans.

Bailey also hopes to use his contacts in Europe to bring international visitors to the library as either fellows or interns, thus furthering its role as a learning and teaching library.

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You can earn **cash REWARDS** for cutting down your cigarette smoking!

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- Earn up to **\$175 in cash** for follow-up appointments!

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REWARDS@Brown.edu

A Research project sponsored by Brown University and the National Institute on Drug Abuse

Congress begins with a bang . . . and a bus stop

BY JEN JARVIS '07
NEWS EDITOR

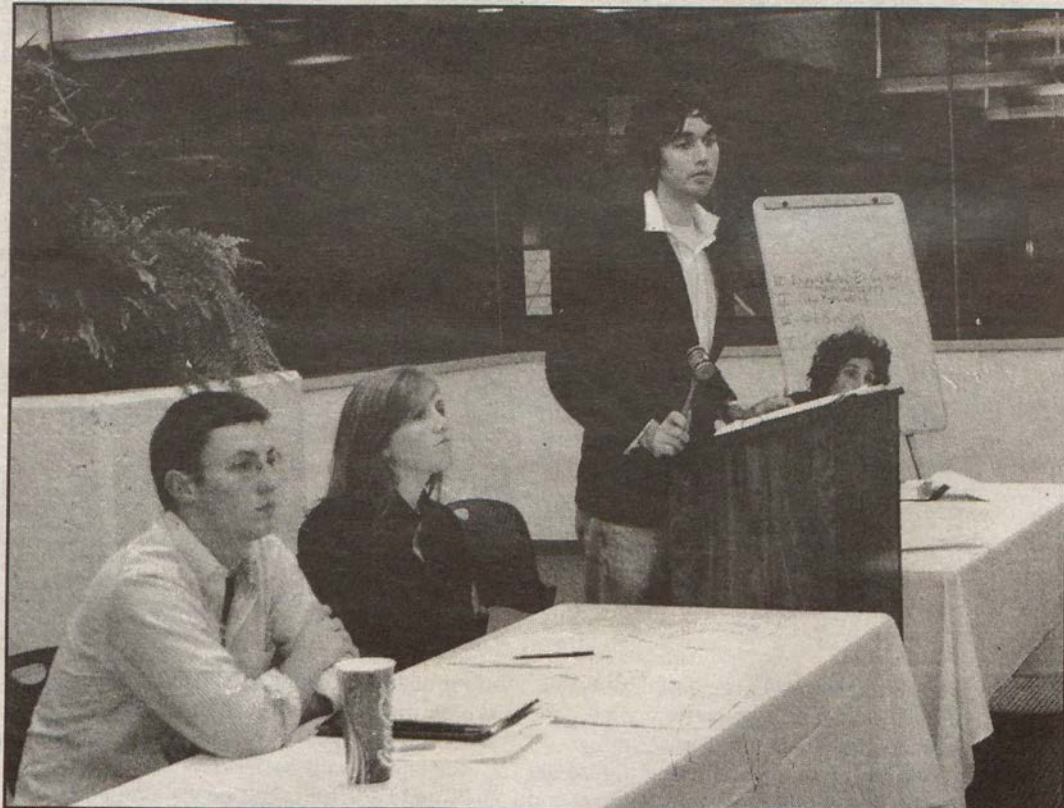
Students returning to PC this year could not have missed the new addition to the Huxley Avenue decor. Where once only a battered sign on a telephone pole marked the RIPTA stop, now a bus stop, bench, and rain shelter graces the sidewalk. Before the school year even began, the 56th Student Congress was hard at work, doing more than just providing students with a place to sit.

"We streamlined Congress," said Matt Weber '06, president of Student Congress. Weber said that Congress was restructured so that each person had a more specific role, making it easier to delegate duties.

In addition, Congress worked to provide students with the opportunity to purchase a Student Advantage Card, which gives students discounts at different stores and restaurants.

At the Congress meeting this past Tuesday, Weber also mentioned that the Congress-sponsored Babe Ruth Little League team won its championship. Besides that declaration and a few upcoming birthday announcements, the meeting was packed full of business.

Ed Caron, vice president of College Relations and Planning, spoke about the College's *Princeton Review* ratings. This year, PC ranked second in "beer consumption," and ninth in



TRACY DONADIO '06/The Cowl

The 56th Student Congress held its second meeting of the school year last Tuesday. One of the issues addressed was the College's rankings in the *Princeton Review*.

"hard liquor." Caron said the issue was not those rankings per se, but "what you all think as the leaders of the student body."

The annual *Princeton Review* is developed from online surveys that translate into 62 ratings about everything from study habits to alcohol consumption, Caron said. He said the *Princeton Review* tries to survey at least 10 percent of a school's student population in order to get an accurate cross

section of students. For PC this would mean approximately 370 students. However, the *Princeton Review* will not disclose this information, so how many people actually responded is unknown.

Caron gave Congress options for what could be done to address the ratings. One was to ignore the glaring alcohol consumption ratings. "Maybe it's true," Caron said. But he also suggested taking a proactive

approach to the more in-depth written surveys that are conducted every three years. In addition, he encouraged members of Student Congress to take the online surveys themselves, to give more representation to the College and therefore "better reflect reality," Caron said.

Also at Tuesday's meeting, Congress voted on an amendment to its constitution that would give votes to cabinet members. These members of

Congress were not elected, but were appointed by the executive board to head committees. Some of the debate prior to the vote focused on the issue of whether it is fair to the student body to give votes to cabinet members, since they were not elected as representatives of the student body. The legislation was voted down.

Introduced at the meeting was a resolution that detailed the allocations of the Student Activity Fee to the clubs and organizations. The list gave estimates of what each club will be allocated, and the legislation will be finalized and voted on at Congress' next session.

Congress is staying busy with the upcoming allocations legislation and a new newsletter that will be distributed to students' mailboxes. In addition, this weekend, members of Congress will be participating in "Rebuilding Together," a community outreach program that takes place throughout Rhode Island. Congress will be helping to fix up three houses in the area.

"It's basically painting (and) yard work," said Mickey Begin '06. Begin said the project was formerly known as "Christmas in April," but the event was rained out last year.

Weber stressed that the 56th Student Congress is an "open Congress," which invites all members of the College community are invited to attend meetings and contribute. Congress' next session is Sept. 27 at 5:30 p.m. in Slavin Rm. 112.

Books: Half.com cuts costs, but also quality

continued from front page

Half.com can wind up costing you more than the same used book offered at PC's bookstore.

Rushworth also noted that many students do not consider adding shipping to their costs before shopping at sites like Half.com. Suddenly, after they make their selections, expensive shipping costs make the effort of finding discounted textbooks relatively pointless, especially if you are shipping a number of heavy books.

Regarding her experience with Half.com, Ellis said that, "Sometimes you can find textbooks that are half the price that the bookstore charges, but other time with the shipping added the books come out to about the same price."

Because of this, Ellis still buys her books at the PC bookstore if the prices are the same once shipping costs are considered. Dunn also says that she compares her prices before making final purchases.

Half.com claims to have remedies for many of the downfalls involved with us-

ing its online site. If the exact book someone is looking for is not in stock, such as a specific new edition text, he or she can start a "wish list" and Half.com will e-mail him or her when someone puts the book up for sale. In a case like this, students can also pre-order your books with a credit card so that the site automatically purchases them and deducts the money from the student's account.

Despite the recent trend of shopping for textbooks on the Internet, Rushworth noted that sales at PC's bookstore have not decreased. In fact, if anything, sales are better this year, due to a number of factors.

"First of all, this year's freshman class is extremely large so more students means more book sales," explained Rushworth. "We were never worried about sales being anything but consistent this fall."

The bookstore has also increased sales with its online reservation system, which an increasing number of students have taken advantage of. Students are able to reserve their books online before coming to campus and pick them up

when they move in. Only 500 students used the service last year, but this fall that number almost doubled at 900 students, Rushworth said.

Regardless of anything that an online text book site offers in the future, Rushworth is not worried that PC's bookstore will have a problem competing because of the one thing PC has up on them: convenience.

"It's so much easier for students to come here and pick up their books rather than searching for them online, making sure they have the right edition, spending extra money on shipping, and then waiting all that time for their books to come in the mail," said Rushworth.

He also noted that since the bookstore now accepts Barnes and Nobles gift cards, many students come into the bookstore to redeem gift cards that they may have received as gifts to cut their textbook bills.

"A lot of freshmen got them as graduation gifts," Rushworth said. He cited the case of one student who was able to cut her textbook costs this semester from \$600 to just over \$400 with the cards she

redeemed.

As a final note of precaution, Rushworth added that professors at Providence College have high academic standards and students may not want to risk buying their books online and waiting for them to come in the mail.

Half.com does not work like a normal retail Web site where items are constantly being shipped from large, stocked warehouses. Once you purchase a book from a seller on Half.com, the seller mails it himself, just like Ebay sellers do. If a seller takes his time getting to the post office with a book, students may feel the pressure of impatient professors.

"Students here are expected to hit the ground running," Rushworth said. "After coming to school, finding out what books you need, and then ordering them on Half.com, it could be two weeks before you're able to start reading for classes."

Dunn agreed, saying, "While some of the books I got online versus in the bookstore were definitely cheaper, I had to wait over a week and a half for them to get here."

PC FOR LIFE

9/26 Blood Drive
'64 Hall 12-7

10/3 Fr. Blau
A Look at Arguments for Abortion
5:15 Chapel Basement

Class of 2007

Welcome back BBQ

Lower Quad

Sunday, 9/25, 2-5 p.m.

Dollar Challenge:

Every student donates \$1.00 to hurricane relief. Get a raffle ticket for Class of 2007 gear.

Class presidents promise big plans

BY MEGHAN E. WELCH '06
NEWS STAFF

As the new school year comes into full swing, the class presidents of Providence College are working hard to make the 2005-2006 school year a memorable

FOCUS ON one for all members of the college community. With the support of their class officers, Brad Freeman, president of the Class of 2006; Dan Cullinane, president of the Class of 2007; and Ryan Donnelly, president of the Class of 2008, have developed plans to help improve their classmates' years and the College itself.

Senior class president Brad Freeman '06 said the main objective of the senior class representatives this year is to better the school as a whole. Each of the nine representatives is trying to accomplish a specific goal on campus. Their goals include developing an off-campus directory, putting benches on lower campus, having a shuttle to transport off-campus students to the campus in the winter and having a coffee shop put into the Smith Center.

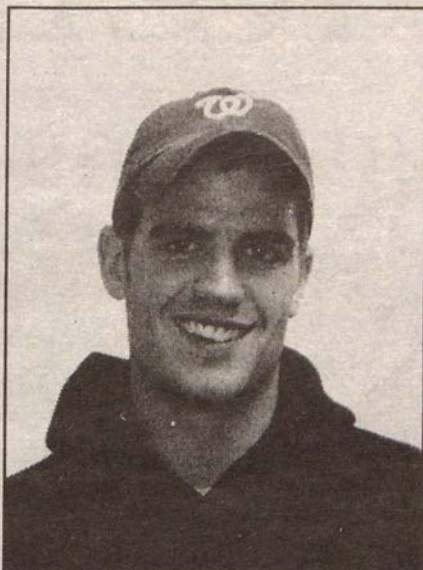
Freeman is spearheading an effort to have speed bumps put in on Huxley Avenue to reduce the speed of drivers on Huxley and increase the safety of Providence College students. Since calls to the local councilman have so far gone unanswered, he hopes to engage the help of the entire college community in his efforts.

"Right now, the local councilman doesn't hold the PC community as anything to be concerned with," said Freeman. "But we can change that by registering voters. If I can go to the councilman with the registration forms of 300 PC students who want speed bumps, eventually he's going to have to listen."

Freeman said he is also hoping that the other classes will help the senior class representatives in their efforts to accomplish things on campus.

"I want a more pro-active Congress, and hope that the other classes will work with us and lend a hand," he said.

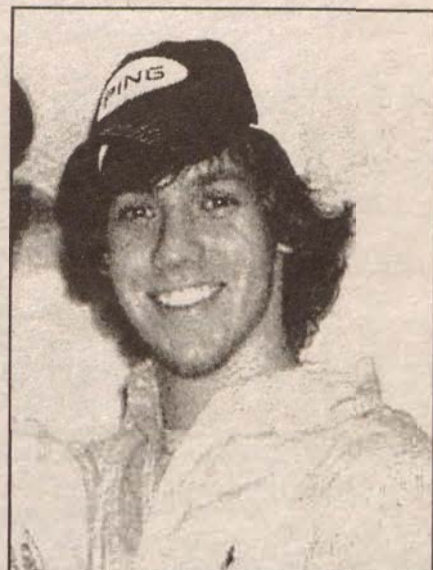
In addition to their efforts to improve the PC community on the whole, the senior class representatives are also planning to have at least one event for the senior class every month, both on-campus and off-campus. Events will include senior nights, the first of which is this



TRACY DONADIO '06/The Cowl



COURTESY OF DAN CULLINANE



COURTESY OF RYAN DONNELLY

Left to right: Brad Freeman '06, Dan Cullinane '07, and Ryan Donnelly '08—presidents of the Class of 2006, Class of 2007, and Class of 2008, respectively—are planning activities to entertain their classmates and to improve PC.

Friday, Sept. 23; countdowns to graduation; and a "Done With College" event to celebrate being finished with undergraduate classes.

Dan Cullinane '07, the junior class president, is focusing on bringing the voices of all of his classmates to the forefront this year. He plans to be in each of the main junior dorms once a week to listen to the opinions and ideas of members of the Class of 2007. He also plans to have surveys throughout the year so that he can better understand what the members of his class want out of their representatives.

"I'm really looking forward to getting the results of the surveys. They're going to deal with big ideas of how to change direction in the school, and smaller issues like what members of the class are interested in buying for events. I want the Class of 2007 to be known as a class that really reached out on the next level," Cullinane said.

Cullinane and other representatives from the Class of 2007 are also working on different community service projects that deal with the outside community. One of their major projects this year is going to be an Adopt-A-School program. The representatives are still looking into schools to sponsor, but activities associated with the project may include cleanup, tutoring, and Big Brother/Big Sister projects. The representatives are also working on an outreach program for

the victims of Hurricane Katrina who are currently staying in Rhode Island.

Several events for the junior class are also planned for the upcoming school year. Right now, the focus is the Class of 2007 Barbeque, which will take place on Sunday, Sept. 25.

Cullinane said, "We're viewing it as our kickoff for the year. We'll have our first survey at the barbeque and we'll also be holding a raffle in which we'll be giving away excess Class of 2007 gear, which includes sweatshirts and baseball T-Shirts. We'll sell the tickets for \$1 then donate the money to hurricane relief, which the school will match."

Other planned activities include the traditional junior nights during the second semester and a long-term guest speaker program. The first speaker will be a former ambassador to the Vatican and a PC alumnus. In an effort to include all students in the junior class activities, each event where alcohol is served will be complemented by another event that is alcohol free.

Ryan Donnelly '08, president of the sophomore class, said that one of his major goals for the year is to increase class unity and a sense of community.

"I want PC to feel like home for people," he said.

Donnelly also wants to increase the visibility of Congress on campus and get more student input.

He said, "I want to hear what other

students want so that Congress can do their best to change with student desires. People can change things, and their opinions can have a positive impact."

One of the major community events that Donnelly and other class representatives are planning for this year is a Senior Ball for senior citizens in the greater community. In order to accomplish this, he said he hopes to work with other groups on campus, such as the Pastoral Service Organization (PSO), so that everyone can pool their strengths and efforts for a positive result. They are also working on having daily newspapers besides the *Providence Journal* brought into Raymond Cafeteria, so that students have more varied choice of reading material during meals.

Several sophomore class events are also in the works. One of these events is a Sophomore Class Mass, which Donnelly said could "bring the class together and do something deeper in a spiritual sense." A sophomore night is also in the works, which will include giveaways, bands, and a possible walk around campus to raise money for hurricane relief.

While each of the class presidents has his own agenda regarding what he hopes to accomplish this year, they all have the similar goal of improving the PC community and ensuring that Student Congress becomes a visible and accessible group on campus.

Ray: Improvements, variety begin new year

continued from front page

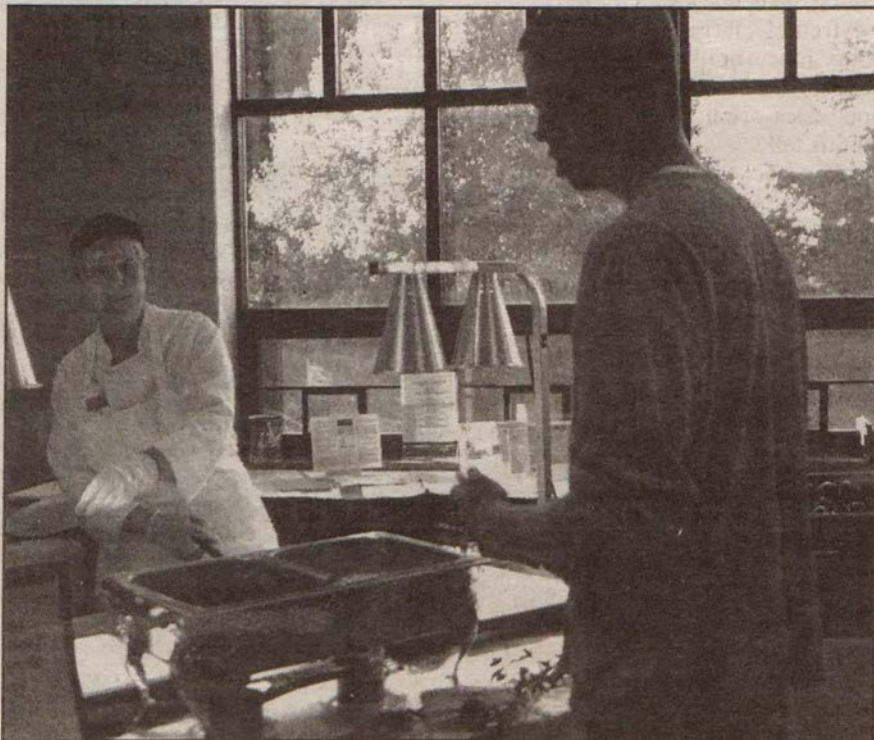
year with the construction done" said Kender.

According to Kender, the new vegetarian station has become a popular addition to Ray, an addition that emphasizes a new commitment to health as well as providing more choices to students.

"I think the vegetarian bar was a big improvement to Ray," said Ashley Laferriere '06.

Raymond Cafeteria has also improved what it serves to students. "I like that there is more variety now at Ray," said Becky Guhin '08. The cafeteria has changed from a four week cycle to a 16 week cycle, meaning the menu will repeat every 16 weeks as opposed to every four weeks. This will give students a greater variety of choices over time. Another change implemented was the opening of all stations for weekend brunch, instead of only offering limited options, said Kender.

There are plans to bring in cooks to demonstrate different dishes. Ray also hopes to set up televisions on Sundays so that students can watch football as they eat.



ADAM ROACH '06/The Cowl

A student surveys the choices Wednesday at Applefest in Ray Cafeteria.

"As we get into the semester, we will roll out more and more programs,"

Kender said. "We are really upbeat already and we are just getting started."

McPhail's: Cost and convenience attract crowds

continued from front page

there is not a specific event planned. He said the staff of McPhail's would like to see McPhail's become the favored hang-out for PC students.

According to Halleluyah Walcott '06, it already is.

"I can walk by here on any night of the week and see students in there," he said.

Efforts to attract a larger crowd to the campus bar began last spring when the bar received wireless Internet access and a new plasma screen T.V. The upgrades were intended to appeal to a wide crowd and expand the hours in which students utilize the venue.

"We are continually trying to upgrade McPhail's in order to attract more and more students. We want all students from PC to be able to utilize McPhail's in every way," said Incantalupo.

Sarah DuPont '07 summed up the appeal of the on-campus bar by saying, "Why walk all the way to a dirty, crowded bar [off campus] when one of the nicest and cheapest bars around is right here?"

Global presence growing

BY KANHAR MUNSHI '08
WORLD STAFF

Throughout the past few years, Providence College has been able to fund an increasingly greater number of international students on academic scholarships

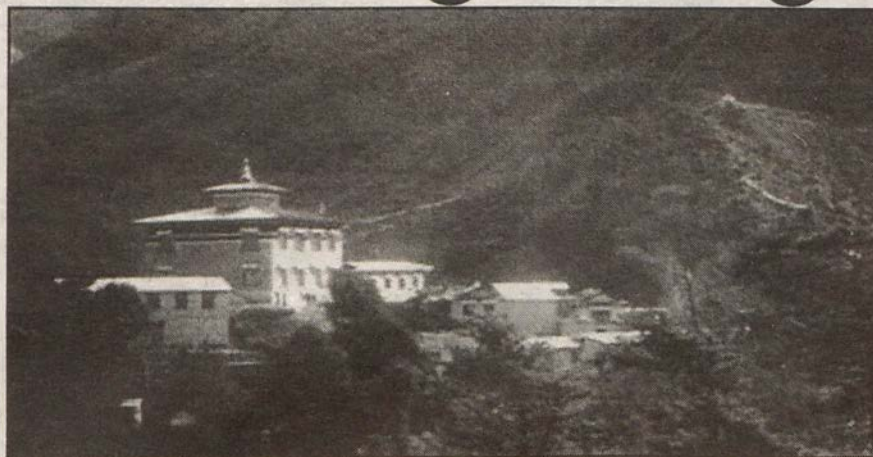
enabling them to come and attend college in the United States

"In the last two years the College has moved towards increasing the number of students from a variety of countries by means of considering them for merit based scholarships," said Dr. John T. Hogan, the international student advisor at PC.

In the 2003-04 academic year, Providence College had a total of two international students living on campus hailing from non-English speaking countries. The freshmen Class of 2009, however, has a total of seven international students out of which four students were from Nepal, and one each from Bulgaria, Zimbabwe, and Serbia—all on some form of merit-based scholarship.

PC's increasing global presence, compared to its relatively small size, could reveal the strength of the alumni or an increase in prestige over the years. The application process, which could prove daunting when initiated from abroad, is made easier by the ease and accessibility the internet offers, especially since the PC Office of Admission accepts the Common Application, available at www.commonapp.org. As Ramit Khanduja '09, from Nepal simply put it, "The application process was one of the easier things in the whole adjustment process."

Abigail Mariga '09, hails from the town of Chitungwiza in Harare, Zimbabwe. She was one of 20 students selected out of 400 under the U.S. Student Achiever's Program designed for economically disadvantaged students in her country. Being selected for the program, however, did not guarantee a scholarship or admission to a U.S. university or college but ensured that she would be given adequate resources and guidance in being able to then start the application process. It is there that she looked up the names of potential colleges and found that PC offered a Martin Luther King (MLK) scholarship, for which she was



This Nepalese monastery sits in the mountains of the world's 12th-poorest nation. Several new PC students are from Nepal.

eligible. She was then one of the 15 to be lucky enough to get into a college with a full tuition scholarship although room and board was still an expense to be considered. Here she was helped by the Grace Scholarship Fund in San Francisco, which agreed to bear the remaining portion of her college expenditure that the MLK scholarship did not cover.

Upon being asked about the cultural differences she experienced here at PC, Mariga pointed out that teacher student relations here were less formal and that it was not mandatory to greet elders while you walk past them. "Eating or drinking during class back home is impossible, whereas here there is more independence given to a student," said Mariga. On differences in culture, she promptly mentioned that the food is much different from what she would eat in Zimbabwe, where the staple food was 'Sadza,' ground maize with chicken or vegetables. "Pasta and rice are considered special food at home."

She is grateful to the people at the Balfour Center who she says "are always willing to help." She said the center was of particular help when it came to finding books and supplies. "One of my best experiences yet at PC has been my roommates, who have helped me the most and who I owe a lot to," said Mariga who lives in a quad in Raymond Hall.

Mariga, incidentally the only student from the African continent, does not have many things she would like to see change about PC, except she feels PC could im-

prove in dealing with international students in some areas. "In Zimbabwe, the currency market is extremely regulated, and paying even a small deposit of \$700, is a major inconvenience." Her request for a waiver or deferment of the deposit was not considered. "I was lucky that the U.S. embassy in Harare wired in \$500 on my behalf, but that involved a lot of complications and inconveniences which could have been avoided."

Overall, she says her reception at PC was warm and affectionate, and that she looks forward to her stay here. She will be lobbying for increasing international enrollment, especially from Africa, and will also try participating in many clubs on campus.

The Class of 2009 has four students from Nepal, all hailing from the city of Kathmandu. All of them said they chose PC because of the merit scholarships the College offered and because of the advantages of a liberal arts education. Deep Shreshta '09 said the academic program here is "more flexible and diverse in that it could allow you to do a pre-engineering degree along with taking courses in management and the humanities." The application process was "relatively difficult compared to what is there in Nepal," said Shreshta, although getting the requisite visas and I-20 forms was comparatively easy. "Coming here was a great shock. I wasn't used to things like fire drills, racing down the highway at 100 miles an

INTERNATIONAL/Page 7

Ask PC

How can PC make international students feel more at home?



"PC could have more language programs, a more diverse school population, more diverse classes, more grants for international students, and more emphasis on study abroad."

Johnny Mateus '08,
Marissa Maffa '08,
Litsa Georgakilas '08



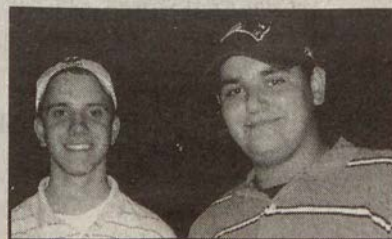
"PC could offer more foreign beers at McPhail's."

Andrew Connelly '06



"PC could offer storage over the summer so traveling is more convenient."

Therese Griffin '07



"We just came from a Portuguese Club Meeting—they should offer Portuguese classes."

Steve Melo '09,
Chris Braga '09

COMPILED BY JULIANNE SPOHRER '07 AND ALLISON HERRMANN '07

Merkel and Schröder scramble in Germany

BY LAURA BEDROSSIAN '07
WORLD STAFF

It is a race against time for Angela Merkel as she attempts to form an able bodied government that must be approved by the German parliament. After fighting a hard campaign against the incumbent Gerhard Schröder for the office of the federal

Chancellor, Merkel, who leads the Christian Democratic Union, gained the highest vote total with about 35.2 percent of the Bundestag, the lower house of parliament. Merkel's campaign was going strong, with her ideas of moving toward "American-style" economics and closer ties with the United States. These ideas promised free-market reforms and reductions in social welfare—all necessary in a time of great economic difficulty for Germany.

However, Schröder argued that Merkel's ideas are unfair and that the reforms he had already put in place during his own time as Chancellor would suffice. Despite his objections to her ideas, Schröder and the Social Demo-

cratic Party only received 34.3% of the vote, denying both candidates an absolute majority, which leaves Germany in a puzzling situation.

What does all of this mean for Germany? Both candidates feel that they have a mandate to ensure a stable government for the country. But with a stalemate in the election, the current governing coalition has been clearly voted out of office; however there is no new chosen leader. Due to constitutional prerogative, Merkel now has her chance to find a coalition that can rule Germany. Within 30 days, she must construct a new, workable coalition which parliament must vote on at the end of this deadline. "Red-Green [the Social Democratic and Green party coalition] has lost the election. That's the good news. Now we have to form a government," commented Merkel. Should Merkel fail to convince parliament with her newly formed coalition and does not gain a majority, Schröder now has his chance at regaining power by rebuilding his own group.

"It is going to be much more difficult to govern Germany," said Jürgen Thumann, president of the Federation of German Industry. His main concern was

that the stalemate will be undoubtedly prolonged if a grand coalition of Christian Democrats and Social Democrats is formed. This would essentially cause the stalemate to occur for much longer and make reform virtually impossible.

If a stalemate reoccurs, Germany's President, Horst Koehler, will have to call for a new election, which could leave Germany without a Chancellor and a governing coalition until as late as January.

With all of its industry, Germany is considered a "powerhouse" of the European economy. Having no federal Chancellor to exercise executive authority leaves Germany and its economy open to instability and could ultimately lead to an uncertain future for Europe's own economy. Jose Manuel Barroso of the European Commission is concerned with the current situation: "With all respect for the internal sensitivities of Germany, I urge the German leaders to find as soon as possible a stable solution. Without a dynamic Germany, Europe cannot recover."

Sources: Times London, Associate Press, New York Times

Anarchists terrorize streets of Athens

BY SARAH VERNON '07
WORLD STAFF

Riots broke out in the student quarter of Central Athens this week in response to a neo-fascist rally against the acceptance of Turkey into the European Union. When left-wing anarchists arrived at the rally to protest, they turned violent, throwing petrol bombs and stones at the police, who were then forced to use tear gas.

The trouble was caused by a two day rally, named Euro Fest 2005, which drew right wing extremists from all parts of Europe to central Greece. On Saturday, 150 people from the group Golden Dawn, an ultra right wing party, gathered to protest Turkey entering the European Union. The members listened to a speech from Roberto Fiore, the head of a neo-Fascist party in Italy. They also carried flags bearing resemblance to the Nazi swastika, under which they gave the Nazi salute.

The event was carried out despite a government ban on the rally issued in



Athens police officers faced off against anarchists in street riots.

part because of complaints from human rights activists. Some rights leaders have said that Greece has not done enough to censure neo-Nazi groups like the Golden Dawn, that regularly distribute racist newspapers. The country does not have the legal clout, in the form of an anti-racist law, which might prevent such groups from meeting or printing newspapers.

Turkey's application for admittance into the European Union has been widely contested throughout Europe. Some voters in the Netherlands and France cited

concerns about Turkey's entrance into the Union as part of the reason why they rejected the European Union constitution.

Talks with Turkey and the European Union on the matter are set to begin on Oct 3. They will continue despite Turkey's recent refusal to recognize the island country of Cyprus, a member of the European Union since last year, which cast doubts over whether the negotiations would even begin. While Turkey has signed an agreement with the European Union allowing Cyprus into its customs union, it continues to prohibit Cyprus from using its ports or airport. There has been a rift between Turkey and Cyprus since 1974 when Cyprus was divided into a Turkish occupied north and a Greek Cypriot south.

Despite this obstacle, the European Union has allowed the negotiations to go on as planned because it considers Turkey's refusal to recognize Cyprus as a political matter rather than a legal issue. However, it is widely expected that the European Union will eventually re-

quire Turkey to change its stance towards Cyprus, perhaps reviewing the decision as soon as next year.

The opposition to Turkey's membership throughout Europe is also partly due to its mainly Muslim population. Opponents say that the less affluent Turkey has no place among the wealthier, Christian countries of the European Union. In a poll taken last July, 53% of European officials asked said they would oppose Turkey's membership. Despite this opposition, some European Union countries believe that Turkey's entrance would be beneficial to the European Union by establishing ties between European countries and the Middle East. In addition, many countries in Europe are mindful of their own largely Muslim populations in considering the benefits gained from admitting Turkey. In the United States, the Bush administration supports Turkey's acceptance because it will serve as a crucial connection between the Muslim Middle East and the West.

Sources: *The Wall Street Journal*, *BBC News*, *Reuters*

International: Students bring a world of culture

continued from Page 6

hour and the big malls," said he.

Rijan Shrestha '09 chose PC because he was offered scholarship funds, which made it possible for him to attend college. He felt that college students here were more inclined to "drinking and late night partying," a concept that he said was alien to him. He loves the PC campus and says it stands out because despite being close to the city, it has a sense of isolation about it. Shrestha, who is considering majoring in pre-engineering, said he is excited about his stay here. His only qualm is that the College should offer some kind of need-based financial assistance to international students and set up a loan program, elements which he believes are absent as of now.

Abiral Sthapit says that essays were the toughest part of the application process, as he was a non-native English speaker. One of his greatest adjustments has been the food that he eats here, which he finds to be "not very spicy and very oily," unlike Nepalese food which he says has a rich blend of different spices. He was particularly impressed with the student-teacher relationships that he feels dominate his PC experience. His professors encourage him to express his opinions and to clarify his doubts.

Ramit Khanduja took a year off after high school, and used that time to research colleges in the United States, where he would be able to find a scholarship to cover his college expenses. He chose PC over Drexel University because they offered him a higher scholarship and says that he loves the small college atmosphere here. His interests include soccer, he plans to join an intramural team to keep him busy, and cricket, which he later learned is not very popular here. He says reception at PC was dominated primarily by his interaction with his roommates who "are the best possible people I could have expected to meet," and he hopes to form a cricket club someday.

All the students from Nepal had special praise for Rev. Mark D. Nowel, O.P., dean of undergraduate studies, who Deep Shrestha described as "a true father" and Hogan, who made them feel at home, looking after most of their needs. Further, they reserved praise for Richard "Buddy" Lambert '07 and to Matt Weber '06, who went out of their ways to help them get settled in with books and supplies.

Dimitar Kovachev '09, came to PC from Stara Zagora, Bulgaria on an academic scholarship and says he chose PC because an English teacher in his high school recommended it to him. He says applying was not as much of a problem, as he could use the Internet to download all of the requisite forms.

Kovachev feels that the environment in America is more dynamic than in that of Bulgaria, which has smaller, closer-knit communities. "People here are always in a hurry and work very hard," said Kovachev, who is still getting used to this fast lifestyle. He loved the PC campus since he feels more at ease with the non-urban feel that it radiates, which reminds him of home. He also was impressed with the teacher-student relationships and felt that all his professors were helpful in assisting him with used books and difficulties he had grasping the material in his Development of Western Civilization course. "I don't have much experience with it" he said.

As he doesn't have a computer, he gets inconvenienced by the library and the computer labs closing by 1:00 a.m. One of the requests he would like to make to the administration is to open up available jobs for international students who by default are not eligible for work-study programs and therefore cannot find work on campus easily. He also had a difficult time buying books for his courses as they are expensive and not covered by his scholarship. Kovachev, who is considering a pre-engineering major also, has so far enjoyed his experience here, and can be often seen playing pool at McPhail's.

Ivana Stojanovic '09, heard of Providence College from brother who is cur-

rently enrolled in a Ph.D program at Brown University. PC immediately grew on her, and its small size and liberal arts education enticed her to apply. She said she found the application process tough because of the variety of material required to make a complete application, and believed the essay section was the most difficult.

Culturally, Stojanovic found Providence very different from Serbia. "In Serbia, you can walk around the city at all times, its very safe, unlike here where you are advised to walk with somebody at night," said Ivana hinting at Serbia's low crime rate. She also pointed out that Serbia has no drinking age and that "alcohol isn't as big a deal there and isn't misused as much as it is here." She claimed to have had a tough time adjusting to the food here in general which she claims is "greasy and mostly fried" compared to Belgium where "meals are more spicy and cooked well." She was also impressed by the faculty here at PC, whom she said are more approachable and friendly towards students.

These students are just a sampling of the College's international community. There are also students from Myanmar, India, Angola, New Zealand, Ireland, Britain, exchange students from Brussels, and from many other nations currently enrolled here at PC.

Weekly Spotlight

BY MATTHEW SULLIVAN '06
WORLD STAFF

Last week Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf arrived in New York for a gathering of world leaders at the United Nations. While there, he met with Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, which was the first meeting between leaders of the two nations in history. On Monday, Musharraf suggested that the two countries should continue to meet and attempt to build a stronger relationship. Musharraf told *The Jerusalem Post*, "We need to sit down and talk more (with the Israelis) and see how to move forward." Pakistan has not traditionally had good relations with Israel, but was encouraged by Israel's recent withdrawal of settlements from Gaza. Like most of Pakistan's world politics, this relationship has changed throughout the years.

Born in 1943 in Delhi, India Musharraf and his family moved to Karachi, Pakistan, after India and Pakistan were partitioned by the United Nations in 1947. In Pakistan, he was educated in Christian schools before joining the army in 1961. Musharraf moved

Pakistani President Perez Musharraf

quickly through the ranks and became a commissioned officer in 1964. He served in the infantry and as an artillery officer, and also led troops in combat during Pakistan's war with India in 1971. In 1991, Musharraf achieved the rank of Major General. Musharraf's success in the military is especially significant since he does not belong to the Punjabi class that dominates the officer ranks of the Pakistani army.

Musharraf took power in Pakistan in 1999 following a non-violent coup against then Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, stirred by the Prime Minister's relationship with India. Musharraf, then Army Chief of Staff, did not support the Prime Minister's negotiations with its long time rival, India. At that time, Musharraf was denounced by the United States and other western nations as dangerous since a coup could cause war between two powers with nuclear capability, India, and Pakistan. Nonetheless, Musharraf remained in power and would come to have a much different relationship with the West.

In the wake of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the United States needed the support of Pakistan in order to fight in Afghanistan, a nation which it borders. Pakistan was one of the few nations to rec-



Daily Times

Some have questioned Musharraf's commitment to human rights.

ognize the Taliban government. Musharraf chose to support the United States, risking unpopularity in his largely Muslim nation and particularly among his powerful intelligence agency, the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI). The ISI had close relations with the Taliban. However, with offers of generous aid from the United States, and the possibility of building a long-term partnership with the world's largest superpower,

Musharraf opted to support the U.S. in its actions, significantly changing Pakistan's role in the world and its relationship with other nations.

Since supporting America in the war on terror, Musharraf has built stronger relations with western powers, as evidenced by the recent warming of relations with Israel. President Bush has said of him, "President Musharraf is a courageous leader and a friend of the United States." He has also worked to crack-down on Muslim extremism in his own country and has promised to modernize Pakistan into a moderate Islamic nation which respects human rights, is technologically advanced, and is economically competitive. Such actions have not been easy for Musharraf, who has had a number of attempts made on his life by radical Muslims.

Some have questioned his commitment to human rights since he has cracked down on opposition and others have doubts about the legitimacy of the elections in Pakistan. In all of his considerations, Musharraf must strike a balance between maintaining his relationship with the U.S. and sustaining public support for his domestic role.

Sources: *BBC*, *Reuters*, *Times of India*

Off point

BY KELLY JONES '07
ASST. COMMENTARY EDITOR

In the Sept. 15 issue of *The Cowl*, Mallary Tenore '07 wrote a revealing article introducing Providence College students to College President Rev. Brian J.

CAMPUS Shanley O.P.'s upcoming plans to improve upon—as he put it—“what we already do well.” Included in this category are acquiring new Dominican priests to bolster the College's mission, “asking the big wigs for money” to increase our lacking endowment, and to ensure the quality of both incoming and current professors. These are all very proactive, positive improvements to the College. However, it seems we should be immediately concerned with what the institution has always failed to do—those issues that can result in nothing but negative perceptions of PC. Specifically, it is worrisome that Father Shanley plans to “just think more creatively” about the solution to the College's painful lack of diversity.

Father Shanley's heinous theory that “homogeneity is part of [PC's] strongest suit” smacks of the attitude during the “Father Smith” era that drove students to band together in late-night meetings and present resolutions to this issue in front of the Faculty Senate. An environment that defines itself by the similarity of its population leads only to disaster. Scientifically, a population cannot evolve without individual differences. Taken from Providence College's Web-site, a portion of the general mission claims that our institution is, “Committed to fostering academic excellence through the sciences and humanities; the College provides a variety of opportunities for intellectual, social, moral and spiritual growth in a supportive environment.” A homogenous student body stunts growth, and negates Father Shandley's goal of adhering to the College's mission.

Academically, a lack of diversity creates apathy among students. It is very uninspiring to learn in a classroom dulled by similar, stagnant opinions. Part of our college experience should be the expansion of the mind into the diverse modes of thought that make up the world off of Huxley Avenue. According to Tenore, Father Shanley sees the homogenous atmosphere as soothing to students who feel more at home as a result. College is not home—this is why we leave for holidays, never make our beds, and occasionally do our own laundry. We are trying to grow up; change is difficult if your peers are all the same.

In one sense, Father Shanley is correct. It is important to think creatively about how to solve our problem. It needs to be acknowledged that diversifying a population involves more than just recruiting other races and ethnicities (although that is a good start). It is true that a school with a specifically Judeo-Christian mission attracts a certain type of student, but there is no reason why our institution should not be enticing to every single high school graduate across the nation. Furthermore, the hiring of high caliber professors from different backgrounds would help decrease student apathy and enforce Father Shanley's desire to improve upon the faculty.

Admittedly, this is not an issue that will be solved easily and in the short-term. With hard work, however, and as someone who seems genuinely concerned with the students, Father Shanley has the golden opportunity to be the man who will bring PC into a future of scholastic and ethnic diversity.

Hollywood's pro-life island

BY MICHAEL RUBIN '08
COMMENTARY STAFF

I was proven wrong this summer, and few things have delighted me more. I had generally assumed that while Hollywood can make a movie that left traditional morality alone, to make a movie that actually supports such beliefs is beyond their deep-set liberal prejudices.

FILM But then I saw *The Island*. *The Island* is a remarkable film. It is not great in the way that Hollywood classics are great, but what makes it truly outstanding is that it is quality Hollywood entertainment that takes an unmistakably pro-life stand on the issue of human cloning.

The movie begins in what appears to be a futuristic living facility created for the survivors of an environmental catastrophe. Every aspect of the inhabitants' lives is tightly controlled, as they wait to be chosen by lottery for a trip to the Island—the one uncontaminated place on Earth.

One of the residents, Lincoln Six Echo (played by Ewan McGregor) discovers that they are all clones, manufactured to provide organs for the cloning company's wealthy clients. Going to the Island is actually their appointment to be harvested for spare parts—or in the case of impregnated female clones, to give birth to the infertile client's baby and then be killed. Lincoln escapes with a woman, Jordan Two Delta (played by Scarlett Johansson), and the two try to avoid the mercenaries hired by the company to retrieve them dead or alive.

The power of the movie is in the unpretentious and non-patronizing way that it conveys its moral. Except for the subject matter, *The Island* is your basic summer movie, involving a lot of shooting, chases, and explosions; this is right up Bay's alley, and while the action may be a bit overdone in places, it is still amazing to watch. Moreover, the movie's message is not conveyed through long speeches, but simply through the portrayal of the clones as human beings, so that the audience naturally sympathizes with them, and thus views the cloning company as horribly immoral.

“*The Island* appears to be an exception to Hollywood leftism that, due to its poor performance at the box office, only confirms the rule.”

But rather than stopping there, Bay elaborates on the movie's pro-life message, and proves himself to be more of an artist than I or most people had suspected. He does this by placing images throughout the movie that establish clear connections to abortion, euthanasia, the so-called “human vegetables” like Terri Schiavo, the killing of the unborn for their stem cells, and even the Holocaust—all done subtly, eloquently, and without sermonizing. This is by far Bay's best film, with so many touching and provoking scenes, all of which build to one of the most moving conclusions I have ever witnessed.

So why did such an exciting, poignant, and touching film gross only \$12.1

million in its opening weekend—a disaster for a big-budget movie like this? It seems possible that American audiences cannot appreciate a movie that challenges their “right” to take the lives of others in order to extend or improve their own.

Then again, another important factor was the widespread panning of the film by critics who condemned it as a dumb action remake of a much smaller '70s movie called *Parts: The Clonus Horror* (nevermind the fact that this was an obscure failure that needed a retelling). One would be right to suspect that it was the film's pro-life stance that prompted this deadly critical response, as one particularly honest review by a New York Times reader suggests: “It is infuriating to run into a superbly well-made film with so retrograde and reactionary a message as this one.” Oddly enough, this was the review that made me excited to see the movie.

The Island appears to be an exception to Hollywood leftism that, due to its poor performance at the box office, only confirms the rule. It is deeply ironic that Hollywood is unable to appreciate one of its best movies this summer, especially when one considers the very poor crop of movies that we have suffered lately. However, hope still remains for *The Island*.

It would be quite a shame for such delightful entertainment to go unrewarded. Especially when the film deals with such time sensitive issues. So if you are looking for an enjoyable film that surprises you with its thoughtfulness, take a trip to *The Island* this winter. It is worth it.

America can learn from big brother

Colleen Flynn '07—
abroad in Spain this
semester—shares her
insights from across
the pond with the
Providence College
community

BY COLLEEN FLYNN '07
COMMENTARY STAFF

The streets of Granada, Spain are similar to a European catwalk. Tall, lithe, stunningly gorgeous people strut past you from every direction, running the occasional hand through an edgy coiffe or clacking their stilettos behind them.

TRAVEL There exists an unwritten law against sweatpants. Being short, blonde and possessing a fetish for cheap Old Navy flip flops, I often stick out like a sore thumb.

Spaniards can spot my American appearance from a mile away, as though there were a blinking neon sign dangling from my neck. If—by chance—I pass as European, the image is shattered when I open my mouth and attempt to apply what little Spanish I know. Surround me with the loud, boisterous, bar-top dancing members of my study abroad group and the effect is even worse.

I suppose American Institute of Foreign Schools (AIFS) made us stop over in London for three days to get us accustomed to the European anti-American sentiment. At least I could understand the British when they called us “stupid Americans,” but upon arriving in Spain I was treated to two new Spanish words designed to convey this message. The first was “gili,” short for “gilipollas,” which literally translates to “stupid dick.” The second was “guirri,” a word denoting a foreigner who cannot or will not speak the native language. While both mean different things, they achieve the same effect when shouted to you from a speeding Vespa.

Though I get mildly offended every time I hear these insults hurled at me, I have to concede that Europeans' anti-American attitudes have a valid basis. Aside from excelling in the business world, and the art of putting ice in our drinks, Americans remain inferior to Europeans.

Their fashion, art, architecture, and prowess on the fútbol pitch surpass American standards by leaps and bounds. Their modes of transportation are both mechanically and esthetically superior. Their incredible economic and environmental awareness can be seen in their lack of SUVs and their utilization of the SmartCar.

Most impressive is the European standard of education. Spaniards start school one year earlier than most American children and the first three years of their education—whether private or public—is entirely government funded. My host brother will start school this year at age three, where he will immediately

learn to read and write. He already has more books than I do.

Spaniards attend high school one to two years more than Americans, and when they graduate higher education is significantly cheaper than American institutions. Similar systems of education exist across Europe. Moreover, Europeans emphasize foreign language education far more than Americans. The majority of German and Japanese students I have met here are at least trilingual.

As a result of Americans' international influence, many non-Americans have learned English to cater to Americans lacking foreign language skills. Many of their schools have instituted an English language learning requirement, beginning at elementary levels. I cannot say the same for Americans, exemplified by my home state of Massachusetts and its lax requirement of only two years of foreign language education and Providence College's own lack of foreign language requirements in its core curriculum.

This sense of my own American inferiority has contributed in part to my desire to study abroad and learn Spanish. I feel it is not fair for me to remain ignorant while the rest of the globe attempts to learn my language. Luckily, Spaniards are very receptive to my attempts to speak with them in their language, especially when they discover our mutual affection for making fun of George Bush.

Thus, with a new pair of heels and some handy Spanish phrases “poco a poco” I am making progress; not to fit in with the Europeans or to dispel my American-ness, but rather to increase my overall worldliness.

Tangents and Tirades

If Commentary Staff was one collective rockstar—and we are—our favorite effect would most definitely be the wah-wah pedal. So, rock out with this week's epic ballads of tedium and the inane.

Turn off the AC! Thursday afternoon, as my professor droned on about something scientific, I shivered and pulled my sleeves over my hands, still damp from the monsoon I endured on the walk from Mal Brown to Albertus Magnus. Then I noticed I wasn't the only one about to die of hypothermia, other soggy students sat with arms crossed and shoulders hunched trying to keep warm. Call me crazy, but a day of blue skies, low humidity, and temperatures in the mid 70's is pretty close to perfect. With the exception of last Thursday, this is the kind of weather we have had since the first day of school. However, since the better part of my days are spent under the stark fluorescent lights of an air conditioned, cinder-blocked cell of a classroom, I have not had much time to enjoy these last days of summer. In fact, every time I am greeted by an icy blast of forced air at the entrance of Mal Brown, it is a harsh reminder that winter is just around the corner. So I say, lets roll up those ugly vinyl shades and give those air conditioners a rest, they worked hard all summer. Oh yeah, and if anyone from Physical Plant was wondering who keeps turning off the air in the hallways of Mal Brown, that's me. Sorry guys.—Erin Rice '06

Kiss my grass Yeah, Providence College is in the middle of a city. Yeah, we see a lot of tar and a lot of granite. But hey, that doesn't mean we can't have lush rolling fields running across our quad's and landscaping, right? Well, not really. Every day, the College grounds suffer the pounding of about 4,000 undergrad's slamming what little grass we've got into a mulchy pulp. The grass outside McVinney is crying, and Albertus Magnus' grounds don't exactly look like a putting green. However, thankfully the higher powers have realized this, and are trying to give Providence a little sprucing up! New fences are going up around high traffic areas to protect the grass, and hopefully we should see a greener—and perhaps happier campus this coming spring. Maybe this is a new decree from Father Shanley in an attempt to get the ball rolling in upgrading the campus? Only time will tell.—Ricky LaBonte '08

A real marathon class Every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon I have a class called Physical Anthropology. The class is fine, and fulfills part of my science requirement, but there is a price that must be paid. The class is in the Smith Center for the Arts, which is very convenient for someone who lives in the Suites. If only I lived in the Suites, instead of Aquinas. Two days a week I make the long journey to class, to an undiscovered country known as the "Lower Quad." On the way, I play chicken with a RIPTA bus on Huxley as I dart through traffic to reach the frontier of PC. I finally make it to class with no time to spare and relax. Before I know it, class is over, and it's time for history class in Accinno—uphill all the way.—Kyle Drennen '07

Take a backseat, son Mondays are a grind. Everybody knows it. After a long day of classes—some even attended—a taxing trip to the grocery store and a full days work in the Cowl office I am about ready to hang it up. Hang it up all over the nice furniture with the plastic covering in your parents living room. But no, there is work to be done. The one saving grace for the post midnight push used to be B101.5's "Backseat Memories." Nothing could cure my shattered nerves like a smooth tune from the Rondelles or Jerry and the Pacemakers. However, Shabop Shabop is one word repeated twice that I haven't heard as of late. To the best of my knowledge WWBB Providence has dropped the show and at the same time—my heart. There are probably other radio shows out there, possibly playing very similar music; but I don't care. In vain protest I solemnly bang an overturned sauce pan with a wire whisk to the tune of "Love Potion #9" for the three hours that Backseat Memories used to give me a reason to live.—Chris Ackley '06

THE COWL

PROVIDENCE COLLEGE'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1935

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TOO
HOT FOR
WORDS

BY ERIC FULFORD '08
COMMENTARY STAFF



Letters to the Editor:

Body count worse than reported

Commentary writer Terence Sweeney '06 wrote in last week's Cowl that "We have lost 1,800 soldiers for nothing." Some of the casualties in Iraq are Marines and U.S.N.P. personnel. It is not just an Army vs. Insurgents war. Mr. Sweeney should not forget the "Semper Parati" Marines contribution in this unnecessary war which I opposed in a letter to *The Cowl* in 2002, a few months before hostilities began in March 2003.

Since Congressman Patrick Kennedy '91 was the only member of the Rhode

Island Congressional Delegation that voted for the 2002 "Iraq War Resolution." As an active veteran of World War II and the Korean war, I cannot help but wonder if Mr. Kennedy agrees or not with Mr. Sweeney that we have lost 1,800 soldiers for nothing. As of Sept. 15, the dead casualty count stood at 1,891. It could be 1,900 as you read this letter.

RUSSELL P. DEMOE '73

PC Republicans respond

While we appreciate Adam Roach '06's acknowledgement of the success and charitable nature of the 9/11 memorial, there are some issues that we feel need to be clarified.

First, in regard to Adam's comment on the advertisement's depiction being "insulting, insensitive, in poor taste and completely inappropriate," we would like the student body to know that the illustration was not designed by the College Republicans, but came with the promotional kit provided by Young America's Foundation, a national non-profit organization from which the supplies were purchased. If any member of the College community has a complaint about the design, we suggest that they contact YAF directly at yaf@yaf.org.

Second, in relation to the PC Democrat's invitation to co-sponsor a tsunami relief drive, it was our decision not to sponsor anything as an organization, but rather to individually contribute to the numerous campuswide events already occurring. Besides, it is a new year with new leadership, so let's forget past grievances and start fresh. The best way to have bipartisan cooperation is not to point to the instances where we did not cooperate, but to look to the opportunities where we can. Finally, to address

Adam's comment on our "politicizing" of 9/11, we want to make it clear that it would never be our intention to do that. Doing so would belittle the memory of all of those who were victims of that terrible day. The purpose of the memorial was to remember all of those who lost their lives on Sept. 11th while also contributing to the Hurricane Katrina relief fund.

We look forward to making the memorial an annual event, hopefully to be joined by other campuswide events commemorating 9/11 so that the sacrifices made on that day will never be forgotten.

No matter what our political views, we can all be united in honoring the memories of the victims and heroes who perished on that day. Similarly, all of us can also know the importance of Americans standing together in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, which has devastated the lives of so many of our fellow citizens. Once again, thank you everyone, especially the volunteers, donors, Campus Ministry Center, and *The Cowl*, for making this event all that it was, your support was greatly appreciated.

PC COLLEGE REPUBLICANS

COWL LETTERS POLICY

The Cowl welcomes guest commentaries and Letters to the Editor from all members of the Providence College community, as well as outside contributors.

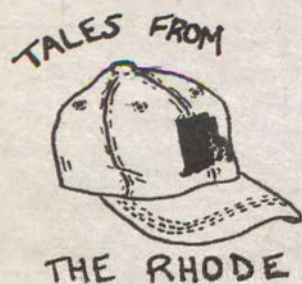
All submissions must include the writer's name, signature, and a phone number where they can be reached. Articles will be printed as space permits. Letters should be no more than 250 words in length. Guest commentaries should be limited to 700 words in length and only one will be published per week. *The Cowl* editorial board and its administrative supervisors reserve the right to edit articles and letters for space and clarity.

However, if there is a portion you specifically wish to remain unchanged, please inform the Editor-in-Chief. Letters to the Editor are the opinions of the writer only

and do not reflect the viewpoint of *The Cowl* staff.

Submissions must be delivered, mailed or faxed to *The Cowl* office no later than 5 p.m. on the Monday before publication. Mail submissions to Box 2981 Providence, RI 02918, fax to 401-865-1202, submit online at www.thecowl.com, e-mail to thecowl@providence.edu, or hand deliver to *The Cowl* Office in Slavin G05. Call 401-865-2214 with any questions.

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BY CHRIS ACKLEY '06
COMMENTARY EDITOR

Isn't this new graphic swell? Please excuse the brief preamble which will serve as a belated introduction to my intentions for this column. I am a college student in Providence. I also call this great city my home. For the past three school years and two summers, parts of the Providence puzzle have slowly come together and given me a better understanding of the many different people, places, organizations, and lifestyles making the city what it is. I do not claim to be an expert—or even all that knowledgeable on the subject—but I think I might have found some of the corner pieces.

By sharing my favorite parts about Providence I hope not only to entice students to look beyond our campus walls and venture out into a dynamic and creative city, but also to show students that the problems we face here at Providence College exist in the "Real World." And people like ourselves confront them head on.

So, why was this graphic not included in last week's issue? Because putting out a newspaper is a lot of work, and finer details are often overlooked. Every week

Pressing issues on campus and beyond

hard working students spend up to 15 hours in cramped windowless offices slaving over computers and battling mild insanity, with the ultimate goal of keeping people informed. This work happens under the radar of the vast majority of college students. They just pick up—or generally disregard—issues as they come out. However, almost every major college or university puts out a weekly, if not a daily, newspaper.

This being said, it is distressing to hear about the tough summer that college presses have endured. On June 20, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit handed down a decision that overturned a previous ruling which stated that a college administrator had violated the first amendment rights of three editors at Governors State University in Illinois. This administrator, Patricia Carter, halted publication of *The Innovator* demanding prior review of content. In essence, the decision declares that this is an acceptable practice at public colleges and universities. The students involved in this case will challenge the ruling at the Supreme Court level.

Although we are a private institution-

and the Hosty vs. Carter ruling does not directly affect us—censorship is part of this newspaper, and this ruling makes me reflect on our own dependence.

In *The Cowl's* Constitution under Editorial Board-Publisher Relationship Article 1 states "The Vice President for Student Services is the Publisher of *The Cowl* and ultimate publication decisions rest solely at this discretion." This is pretty cut and dry. However, in some

ways it makes sense. The College throws down thousands of dollars every year for computers, office space, and publication fees. It is nice of them. However, they reserve the right to both add and remove content to our student-run newspaper at will. I thought they already had *The*

Spectrum for that?

In my opinion the more devastating stipulation in *The Cowl's* constitution is the fact that the Editor-in-Chief of *The Cowl* is directly appointed by the same man who makes those final publication decisions. By removing internal appointment, the door is opened for administrators to elect a submissive Editor-In-Chief who—in essence—will do the dirty work

for them. It is true that *The Cowl* has not been administratively censored in more than a year. However, this does not mean that everything laid out on *Cowl* pages has gone to print. This covert censorship takes heat off of the administration, effectively checking student hostilities.

Right here in Providence there are fine examples of publications looking to do more than what is traditionally accepted. *The Providence Phoenix* is a weekly independent paper which emerged as an alternative to the *Providence Journal*. Try picking one up on your way out of Nocera's or 7-11. You cannot beat the price, and it comes with a free adult section.

For some, even the *Phoenix* has become complacent. Concerned writers and artists have recently collaborated on a free bi-weekly independent paper called *The Agenda*. Seeking to further the work of the *Phoenix* and provide you with "Something we need: a newspaper with social responsibility." To find this one you may need to venture a bit further from home to Coffee Exchange or White Electric. That isn't a bad thing though.

The writers working on these independent publications constantly strive to keep fresh and connect with the local community. At such a precarious time for civil liberties in our country, it is refreshing to see unstifled creativity and dedication.

Sources: *The Cowl* Constitution, *Report*, *The Agenda*



BY ERIC FULFORD '08

Budding philosophers

BY BETSY ROULEAU '08
COMMENTARY STAFF

"Bagel Bites." This was the answer I got when asking a friend what matters to him now. "Right now, Bagel Bites is all that matters to me."

SOCIETY

In my search for an article topic, I discovered the things that are truly important to Providence College students. Bagel Bites.

He offered some pretty sound advice: don't let them burn. Keep them in the microwave for four-and-a-half to six minutes. Kill the heat when they start to sizzle.

I did not go back to my room and make my own Bagel Bites. What I took from the encounter was a reminder that wisdom can often come from unexpected sources.

This was especially true in my job as a summer camp counselor. In a place where swim time and duck, duck, goose are the order of the day, I did not expect to learn some surprisingly adult lessons.

Some of my campers turned out to be pint-sized philosophers and gave me a crash course in wisdom. One sweltering and sticky summer day, I was stopped in my tracks by some very sage words. "Don't go so fast," I was soberly warned by one three-year-old. "You'll fall on the rocks and get boo-boos. Slow down and be safe." I stopped hurrying the group down the path, surprised to hear such carefully chosen words from the mouth of a tiny child. I took her advice. In a world where every day is spent sprinting to class or to work, we should slow down to avoid the many potential boo-boos of the world.

Most adults would not look twice at a frog at the side of a road, but to 10 kids away from their homes and families for one of the first times; it's a new and amazing experience. Their innocent enthusiasm and pure excitement made me want to stop and examine the frog that we saw on the path or the turtle at the side of the canoe. Young eyes do much for older ones; children help adults to see the world anew. That day, I stopped worrying about getting the group to the lake

on time; they were having a far better time helping "Froggy" to safety.

Donne once said that no man is an island, but at PC, we tend to be very isolated from the world around us. With the exception of our professors and the Ray staff, we are constantly surrounded by our peers. While we constantly learn important lessons from our roommates, classmates, and friends, the lack of "age diversity" makes it important to look outside of our bubble of college life. It is far too easy to forget the many stages of life, all of which have valuable insight.

Age cultivates experiences that shape people into the individuals that they are. Too few of us, however, recognize that the combination of age and experience develops subtle wisdom. A few years of Bingo at my town's nursing home brought many "when I was your age" comments, but one has always remained with me.

"When I was your age," this lady said to my 14 year-old self, "I lived on a farm in the middle of nowhere. I didn't know anything." She paused. "And now I'm in here, and I'm still not sure if I know anything." She went on to warn me to take advantage of everything I possibly could. Although convinced that she had missed out on amassing a store of knowledge and wisdom during her life, she had—in fact—given me one of the soundest pieces of advice I will ever receive.

It is important to remember, the people we once were and the people we are going to be. Different generations offer a distinctly unique perspective on the outside world that is often unseen on a college campus. Learn from your peers and the college life, but remember the outlook of a child and how different the world will seem as one reaches their golden years. From the very young and the very old, we can remember what we want out of life and receive instructions on how to get there. Follow the advice of an unknowingly wise person; take every opportunity possible to get to know the world and the people it holds.

And remember—don't keep the Bagel Bites in the microwave for longer than six minutes. They get mushy.

Looking past the beer

BY KIM AHERN '06
GUEST COMMENTARY

The headline of a recent *Providence Journal* article, published Aug. 23, 2005, read "Review Ranks PC 2nd in Beer Consumption." It is official kids, Providence College has moved up in the annual *Princeton Review* rankings. While

RANKINGS

some students may celebrate this feat by popping open another cold one, it seems not everyone, including the administration, is praising this accomplishment.

Edward Caron, the vice president for College Relations and Planning spoke on this matter at last Tuesday's Student Congress meeting. Mr. Caron's central message focused on whether or not the survey results were a reality or simply a matter of skewed methodology. While the *Princeton Review* will not release the actual numbers collected, they state that the survey measures 10% of the student body and that they have no way of preventing students from submitting data multiple times. At this point, anyone with an elementary-level background in statistics will realize that this data may not genuinely reflect the overall PC community.

I must intercede. As a member of the Board of Programers (in which I planned only non-alcohol events), I have reached this conclusion: free food, t-shirts or a beer garden will draw the masses. Whether or not we choose to embrace the validity of the ranking listed above, we cannot deny the culture of alcohol at PC.

Nearly every day of the week, one of the local neighborhood establishments is offering at least some sort of drink special, whether it be free beer from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (small cover fee of course), or \$1 mixed drink night. Some may raise the point "Yes, but that's all off-campus." Not to fret though, all we have to do is stroll right down to our local student center where we can imbibe alcohol four nights a week in a bar named after our vice president for Student Services.

So yes, PC has embraced a culture of

alcohol. Despite the preceding argument, the fact that we have moved up to the second place position for beer consumption is of no concern to me.

We are in college. It is no surprise that college students drink, and PC is no different than most other universities. What is a concern to me, and numerous others that attended the Student Congress meeting are our other top rankings. Providence College is also listed by the *Princeton Review* as #4 for Homogenous Student Population, #12 for Low Acceptance of Homosexuality, and #19 for Alternative Lifestyles Not an Alternative.

While Mr. Caron's brief lesson in community organizing was appreciated, the question was raised as to why these other issues were not addressed as well? In defense of Mr. Caron, he was asked to speak on the beer ranking and nothing else. However, he did defer all of these questions to our new President, Rev. Brian J. Shanley '80, O.P., who we were told would be attending a Congress meeting in the next month.

But why was Mr. Caron invited to speak only on the beer ranking issue in the first place? Why is the administration giving us a detailed list of actions to refute our beer consumption, yet quietly passing over other vital issues concerning our college?

Diversity and consequently enrollment of diverse students (whether referring to race, sexual orientation or religion), has been a long standing debate in the PC community. The above rankings reflect poorly on our institution and there is no way around that. What we can look forward to is a new administration that is open to student voices and ideas, a characteristic that cannot be attributed to the prior administration.

To the freshman class: numerous students before you have tried to change the old ways of our school. It is up to you to continue this challenge. Raise your voice and challenge others to do the same, whether it means holding secret meetings in the hall of Slavin or posting non-approved messages, you will not be the first to do it and certainly not the last. So yet again, cheers to PC and its drinking ways, but please, let's address the issues that really matter.

Beautiful music in any language

BY JOE MCCORMACK '07
A&E STAFF

Sigur Rós
Takk...
Geffen Records

It seems that every band trying to make a serious artistic statement in the last five years has to have reverb/delay drenched atmospheric guitar or keyboard

ALBUM REVIEW

laying down a sonic landscape. Sigur Rós does this better than anyone else.

Their fourth full length album, *Takk...*, is a monument to their ability to weave melody into atmospherics and truly celebrate the notes they pull out of the air. After the disappointing release of *()*, a dragging and oppressive album with little melody from 2002, *Takk...* proves that Sigur Rós still can engage and mystify listeners as the band has since 1997 with the release of the debut *Von*.

Atmosphere is more than the cliché with this band. This probably has something to do with the fact that they have been making music together for 12 years. It also, no doubt, has something to do with Iceland. The music of Sigur Rós reflects both the power and majesty of the Icelandic countryside, with bold rock-faces and rolling green hills, and the gentle, caring nature of its people... at least the gentle, caring nature of Jónsi Birgisson (vocals, guitar), Kjartan Sveinsson (Keyboards), Orri Páll Dýrason (drums), and Georg Holm (bass)—I can't really speak for the rest of the island; they are, after all, descendants of the Vikings.

Takk... begins with a two-minute flourish—a fleeting flurry of angelic keyboards that dissolves into “Glósóli,” the album's first single. The production on this album is cleaner and subtler than any of their previous efforts, which is clear as soon as the vocals come in. High and thin, Jónsi's voice climbs in delicate melodies over “Glósóli” as bell-like keyboards (which continue throughout the album), crisp bass, and pulsing down-stroke drums form a beautiful and completely unique landscape. The delicate song builds and explodes into walls of distorted guitar and Jónsi's voice wailing.

“Hoppípolla” (roughly translated into “Jumping into Puddles”) follows continuing the bell-like keyboards and down-stroke drums, but with the support of a string section and trumpets. All the songs are in Icelandic and, according to an interview of Jónsi on www.NME.com, “the lyrics are small adventures, maybe like children's stories or something.” The lyrics of “Hoppípolla” appeal to the heroism inherent in playing children: “Og ég fæ blóðnasir/En ég stend alltaf upp,” which translates as “And I get a nosebleed/But I'll always stand up again.” The song is gorgeous.

The fifth track, “Sé Lest,” finds the band experimenting with form. It is an eight-minute digression into the moment, with angelic vocal lines intertwining, strings swelling, and grand piano holding it all together. Toward the end of the song, trumpets enter and the song becomes a waltz for several bars, like something off of Sergeant Pepper's. It ends with around 20 seconds of silence.

SIGUR ROS/Page 14

What Good Fortune!



PHOTOS BY TRACY DONADIO '06/The Cowl

“And I saw her standing there...”: Ralph Fortune (right) and Marie Perry lead the band Fortune (above) last Thursday night in McPhail's. The band boasts a loyal student following and says that playing for the students at PC is one of its favorite things. Fortune is scheduled to play several times throughout the semester.

BY JAMES MCGEEHEE '08
ASST. A&E EDITOR

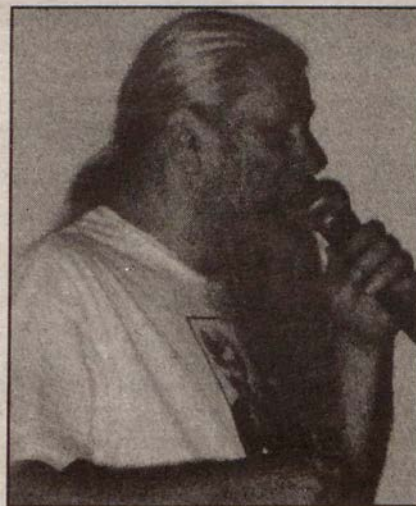
“Check, one, two... test.” Ralph confirms that his microphone works. Frontman of the oldies cover band Fortune, which played last Thursday at McPhail's, Ralph has a long, rough beard, a pony tail, and half a beer belly. He looks like a dude who must ride a Harley.

Ralph, whose last name is Fortune (like his band), walks off the stage and sits down on the couch next to the one I am seated on. “This is Marie,” he says. “She's the other lead vocalist.” There is a woman in a black dress sitting to my left whom I had not noticed before.

“So where do we start?” Ralph asks. “How about with the Guinness in your hand?” I reply. It's his favorite beer I discover. “I have to get tipsy. A shot of tequila before I start is a ritual.”

Next: day jobs, because we all know you can't earn a living just by playing music. Ralph teaches special education students at a high school. Marie is a secretary. “So what is more fun—the day job or the night job?” “The night job,” they agree.

Yes, the nighttime task of playing a set of oldies in front of college students known to dig the parental advisory bal-



lads of Kanye West rather than the swinging rhythms of Chuck Berry could be intimidating, but they love it.

“A few years back, we were playing at Pat's [Pub],” Marie recalled, “and a group of PC students came in the door. I thought they're gonna walk out. But they stayed and danced.”

Since that night, Fortune has accumulated a large fan base at Providence College among the senior and junior classes, the reason they will be playing at McPhail's monthly this semester. Ralph and Marie love the enthusiasm of the PC audience. “Many now know all the words to the songs,” said Ralph. The audience is his favorite part of performing. “If the audience is bored, we're bored. If the audience is on fire, we're on fire.”

Fortune has been an official band for seven years, though, said Ralph, “We were playing a long time before that in the cellar.” Ralph Fortune and Marie Perry sing lead vocals, Bill Perry keeps the beat on the drums, Bob Katlow and Zach Fenner play guitar, and Joe Coccia holds down the bass line. The group plays a classic set with songs from The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, The Box Tops, and Ray Charles to name a few.

Listen to them play one song and you can tell they live to play music. “I love music,” Marie said. “Whether it was being in chorus or belly dancing, music has always played an important role in my



life.” “Same here,” Ralph says. “I did all that too, except the belly dancing.”

Ralph and Marie may play oldies, but they also keep in touch with the pop musical culture. Ralph puts on the radio to get a wide taste of what's out there. Marie occasionally rocks out to the new Green Day.

There was one last question I had to ask. “So, can I join you guys in a tune on the piano?” Ralph is a blunt guy. “Yes.” I examine the set list and realize I cannot play one of the songs. But I jot down the names and promise to learn one or two, because Fortune is returning.

By the time Fortune takes the stage, McPhail's is brimming with students and anticipation.

Kyle Seltzer '06, an ardent fan, commented on why he loves the band and would not miss this show. “Their charisma and enthusiasm to entertain a young audience with their pure classic oldies presents a clash of generations where one can find space with alcohol. The senior class would like to thank Fortune, and we expect the underclassmen to continue what we started.” Cheers to that.

And maybe, next time, I'll join those six talented musicians for a tune during another night of intergenerational bonding and great rock 'n' roll. I'll have a chance every month this semester.

Picks of the Week

BY STEPHANIE A. SMITH '06
A&E EDITOR

Movie

The Road to Avonlea (DVD Boxset)
Directed by Richard Benner

Many of you may not remember this Disney Channel series, but I sure as hell do. And let me tell you, the first four seasons' special box set goes for \$280 on Amazon. So the fans are out there. Anyway, *Avonlea* tells the story of young Sara Stanley, a girl who is forced to live with relatives in the charming town of Avonlea, Prince Edward Island, Canada, sometime around 1900. As a little girl, I watched this show every Monday night while wearing my Easter dress, for the full effect of the time period.

Music

Michael Bublé
It's Time
Reprise

When it comes to crooners, I'm a Sinatra girl all the way. However, I have to give props to someone from my own generation who has the pipes to even compete. Michael Bublé has the skills to pull off some of Frankie's best like "I've Got You Under My Skin" and some other feel-good hits like "How Sweet It Is." I highly recommend waking up in the morning to his song "Feelin' Good." The shrill saxophones and richness of his voice start off my day the way that only a cup of Starbucks can match. It's sheer bliss. Oh my gosh! I can't believe I just did that! He was in a Starbucks commercial—the marketing is working!

Book

Slouching Towards Bethlehem
by Joan Didion

I have my 11th grade English teacher to thank for this pick. We read this book of essays as a class and I really didn't want to because I thought it was "depressing"—that is until I recognized some of my own thoughts in what Didion wrote. Like how sometimes we partially fabricate our memories to make them perfect. I mean, why not? And yes, the title is a reference to Yeats. Maybe that's why I love it so much.

Urban Elements

Smif-N-Wessun miss the target

The pair's latest album, Reloaded, has little of the genius present in their previous work

BY SCOTT GEER '06
A&E STAFF

Smif-N-Wessun
Reloaded
Duck Down Music

Bucktown, home of the Orignoo Gunn Clappaz, is back on the map of hip-hop. All signs point to Brooklyn, where rap duo Smif-N-Wessun intends to keep their guns firing with their most recent release, *Reloaded*.

It was a decade ago when I first heard of Smif-N-Wessun. Their first album as a duo, *Dah Shinin'* (1995), had just been released and my older brother loved to blast anything featuring the Boot Camp Clik. This was '95, when hip-hop was still hip-hop, and Smif-N-Wessun brought the hardcore sound as raw as the Wu-Tang Clan, Group Home, and Das EFX.

Since then things have changed in rap, but Tek and Steele (Smif-N-Wessun) have stayed true to their styles. Forced to change their group name to Cocoa Brovaz in 1998, due to legal issues with the Smith and Wesson gun company, they remained artistically consistent. They still repped the Boot Camp Clik and they still rocked production by Da Beatminerz, a production team known for signature underground beats, which produced many of the tracks on *Da Shinin'* and *Reloaded*. If you need to know more about Da Beatminerz credibility just check out some songs they have produced for artists such as O.C., De La Soul, Dilated Peoples, and KRS-One.

With the first listen of the introductory track "Reloaded," the obvious jumps at you—Smif-N-Wessun are associated with guns. With the intermittent lock and load gun shot samples, Tek and Steele represent themselves to the fullest. Aside from gunplay, the crew delivers powerful lyrics backed by hard-hitting electric guitar riffs provided by producer and fellow Brooklynite, Dru Kevorkian of the Hitnodsics.

What follows "Reloaded" and the transitional gun shot is a trio of tracks that define what it means to be Smif-N-Wessun. These include in ascending order: "The Truth," "My Timbz Do Work," and "Gunn Rap." All three are a testament to what it means to be "hood," and how real they are when it comes to it. Personally, I like music that I can relate to, and honestly, toting guns has never really been a habit of mine. But I guess if you're into the smell of gunpowder, the force of the gun pop, or groups like Onyx and M.O.P., then these songs are for you.

"The Truth" proves that Smif-N-Wessun is no joke. The lyrics are arrogant, with subtle warnings that indicate the name Smif-N-Wessun isn't some ploy. Ironically, there's something respectable about their content and not having any shame delivering it. These lyrics are their reality and these are the stories they tell. The chorus on "Gunn Rap" justifies what they rap about with the lines, "Smif-N-Wessun is gun rap./ In the hood they love that./ To the hoods we give back./ This ain't no come back./ We never left where we live at."

Moving away from glorified raps, "Toolz of The Trade" is a low key, relaxed track that takes you on a ride back to the days when hip-hop was as chill as A Tribe Called Quest. The combination



DUCK DOWN

Your album is sub-par, Smif N Wessun; that is what happens when you endorse guns: Tek and Steele (above) are losing their touch musically.

of a mellow guitar with a smooth vocal harmony serves as the perfect vehicle to reminisce about growing up in New York City. With surprisingly deft skills at story-telling rap, Tek and Steele show their versatility by being soft in a hardcore way.

Similarly, "We Came Up-Crystal Stair" proceeds on that wavelength. Featuring Talib Kweli with production by Da Beatminerz, I was left wondering why the best track on the album is the last track on the album. This song incorporates conscious lyrics that prove that Smif-N-Wessun have the ability to rap alongside the respectable lyricists of today. This is the 12th single off the album—it's that good. Any track featuring Kweli is worth a listen and with the funky organ sample over rough Beatminerz percussion, this track has the potential to be a radio hit.

Another must listen is "Hustler's Prayer." It's a somber track that attempts to help the duo make peace with the reality in which they live. Their creative minds shine on this track as they rap every line of both verses interchangeably. Picture the way the Beastie Boys deliver most of their material, only... different. An eclectic mix of reggae and hip-hop, the lyrics complement the slow moving bass line and guitar strings. The chorus

also provides a refreshing change of pace from the rest of the album, as a sample of a woman sings a traditional reggae ballad.

The rest of the album is filled with marginal tracks, consisting of average production and lack-luster verses. There are some noteworthy songs such as "City of Godz," featuring Buckshot, "Warrior Heartz," featuring Dead Prez, and "Get Back," which features the Boot Camp Clik. Unfortunately, these don't really vary from one to the other and they don't offer anything unique or artistically creative as do some of the other tracks aforementioned. The only thing appealing about most of the tracks lying in the middle of the road is that they feature other artists. That doesn't bode well for Tek and Steele.

With this recent installment from the Smif-N-Wessun camp, the pair fulfills the expected trend of most groups' albums getting progressively worse. Their freshman release is almost always the best. Don't misunderstand; there are some impressive tracks that are appealing enough for a listen, but try not to expect to dig each track consecutively. The clip has been reloaded, but only a few shots were direct hits.

GRADE: C+

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Dostoyevsky does it again

The Gamm Theater's production of Crime and Punishment pays homage to a haunting classic

BY ANNA KUKOWSKI '06
A&E STAFF

Once in a while, we see productions so phenomenal that it's barely possible to put them into words. *Crime and Punishment*, The Sandra Feinstein-Gamm

THEATER REVIEW

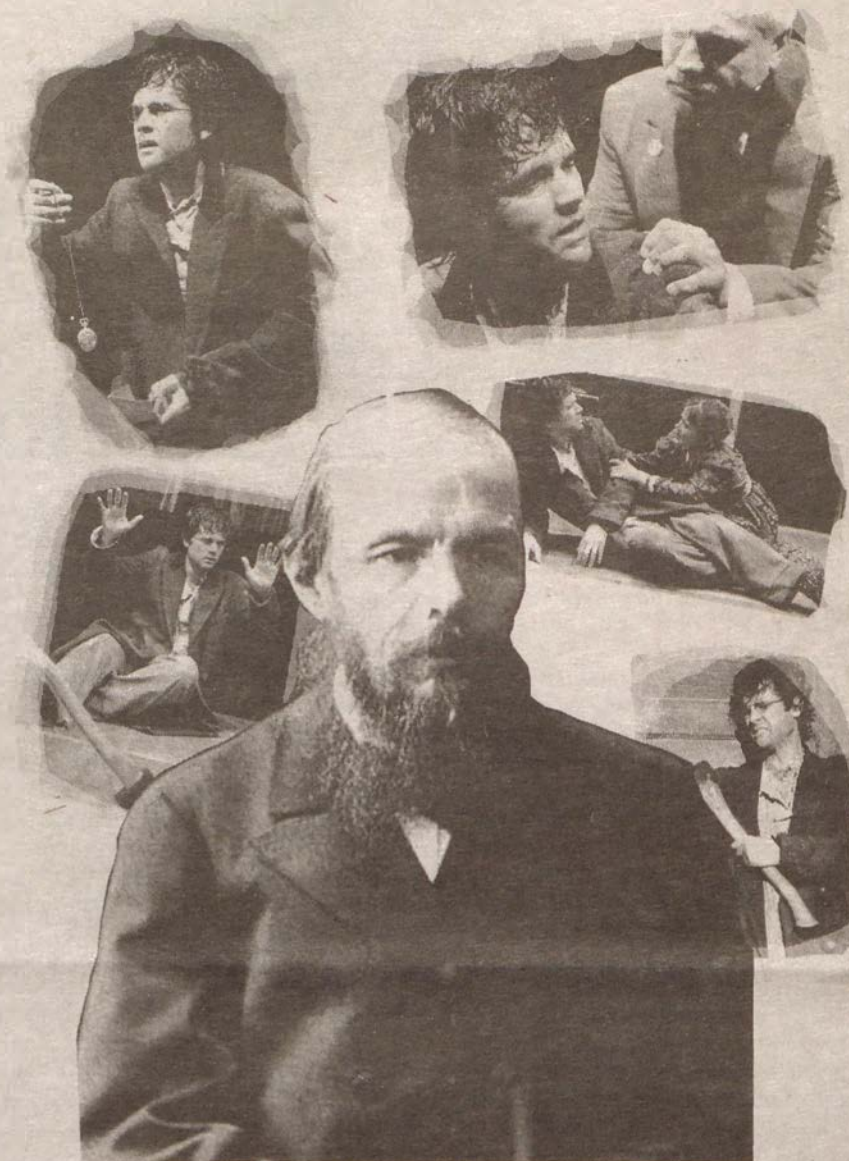
Theater's newest production, is one of those productions. If DWG didn't convince you that Dostoyevsky's sordid classic is permanent piece of Western Literature, The Gamm will.

On Sunday afternoon, Marilyn Campbell and Curt Columbus' adaptation of Fyodor Dostoyevsky's grim *Crime and Punishment* lived in a small wooden space in the local Pawtucket theater. With its impeccable casting, creative staging, and superb directing, The Gamm Theater reiterated its essential theme: art is the perfect catalyst to breed, develop, and provoke life's most difficult questions—even if we don't necessarily answer them immediately.

Crime and Punishment, set in the dolor of 19th century St. Petersburg, weaves the story of a bewildered young man named Raskolnikov (Tony Estrella). In the name of justice, Raskolnikov murders an older woman Aloya Ivana and her innocent sister Lizaveta with a "take from the rich to help the poor" mentality. Yet, in trying to vindicate the injustices and the corruption of the age, Raskolnikov realizes that he, too, has committed an undeniable injustice: murder. An atheistic Raskolnikov and his tormented conscience grapples with hefty issues: God, love, Judgement Day, justification, the impending reality confession. These issues, quite literally, drive him to the brink of insanity.

But Raskolnikov doesn't do it all alone. The quick and cunning Inspector Porfiry (Richard Donnelly) follows Raskolnikov in his journey of conscience and challenges his every statement. Sonia (Casey Seymour Kim) teaches Raskolnikov the value of unconditional love and explains the vitality of confession.

While *Crime and Punishment* might be a deep and rather complex story, a highlight of this adaptation is its one act, 90 minute time frame. This adaptation whittles down 550+ verbose pages of classic Western literature into a mere hour and a half. While we are quite



PHOTOS BY PETER GOLDBERG/Gamm Theater & Graphic by Stephanie A. Smith '06

You're a genius, Fyodor: The Gamm Theater's take on Crime and Punishment reminds us why the book is a masterpiece.

aware that the story is not entirely complete, the Gamm has brilliantly elaborated on complex themes within proper time constraints while fulfilling goal number one: keep your audience's attention.

And the audience is more than enthralled. The brilliant combination of acting and direction was quite clear in Sunday afternoon's production. While Estrella, Donnelly, and Kim master their respective roles, they also slip into other, more minor roles that are crucial to the plotline. Donnelly leaves the stage at one point the relentlessly sharp inspector, but he returns for the next scene as a flustered and befuddled drunken character.

Kim masters Sonia's smooth and soothing words and passionate emotions, but also slips into the roles as the unfortunately murdered old woman. With a myriad of different costumes, personalities, and voices, each character in *Crime and Punishment* is creatively mastered by this small but talented cast.

Estrella doesn't get a break in this production. He's on stage—start to finish—barely able to get a breath in. Raskolnikov's tormented soul couldn't have come across to the audience members more clearly. Instead of just playing a role, we the audience sees his tor-

mented emotions battling and writhing within the character.

In addition to talent of the cast, the crucial role of the director is clearly evident in *Crime and Punishment*. Director Peter Sampieri has obviously worked with these three talented authors, evaluating the text, discussing interpretations, and molding stage directions. A primitive wooden platform is home to creative interpretations of the character's lines. As in many Gamm productions, *Crime and Punishment* is a living and breathing work, rather than a stagnant set of over rehearsed lines and anticipated actions.

Crime and Punishment also asks living, breathing questions. Though desolate conditions in 19th century St. Petersburg have hopefully changed, key issues still remain. Are we ever above the law? Are politicians and bureaucrats ever responsible for their citizens breaking the laws? How does society move itself forward? Do we believe in the Resurrection—of God? Of a soul? As Jennifer Madden so eloquently writes in the program, "World leaders operate above the law, doling out death with impunity through armies they set in motion. Yet we must ask: Does their distance from the actual deed—the lack of literal blood—make them any less guilty of murder?"

The bottom line is that Raskolnikov makes us think. While the conditions might not be exactly the same, the Gamm helps us realize that life's questions might not be all that different, no matter what century we are currently in. As we enter the 21st century—amidst war, amidst chaos in New Orleans, and amidst political scandal and confusion, Raskolnikov's tormented questions remain eerily similar to the issues today.

Because it continually provokes questions instead of doling out the scripted answers, The Gamm remains one of the best theaters in the area. In the midst of such crises, art remains a primary forum for such thinking; this production is a wonderful place to start. The Gamm's interpretation of *Crime and Punishment* provokes questions that are central in our educational experience and pivotal in our main goal as college students: to search for truth consistently in an often confusing world.

GRADE: A

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Transporter 2 delivers the goods

If you like explosions and hot women, look no further

BY OWEN LARKIN '07
A&E STAFF

There is a fine line between a bad movie and one that is so over the top you can't help but laugh out loud. *Transporter 2* crossed this line at 100 miles an

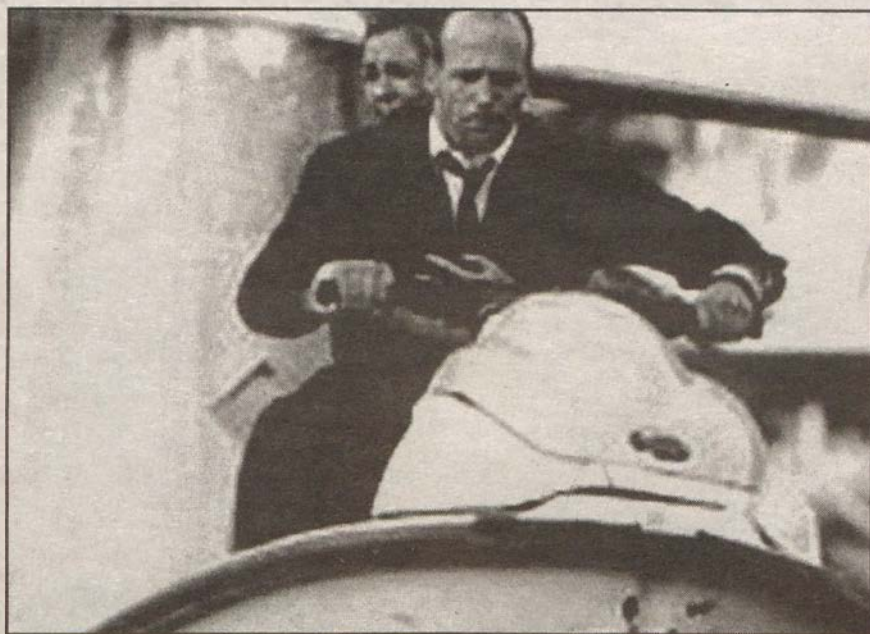
MOVIE REVIEW

hour and never looked back. The movie was practically a showcase for Audi, and I am a few loans away from heading to the dealership myself... I wonder if the bulletproof glass comes standard, or if I should go to Chad Brown and pawn my laptop.

Like most sequels, the producers had no qualms with doubling the budget for explosions and chase scenes and making up the difference by hiring sixth graders to write the script. The most ingenious aspect of this film, aside from the half-naked girl with guns, was the gratuitous product placement. And the part when Frank Martin (Jason Statham) realizes there is a bomb on the bottom of his car which he effortlessly diffuses by flipping in mid-air to pluck the device off his undercarriage by hooking it on a conveniently placed crane. Needless to say, the car, and driver, landed safely. That was, for lack of a better term, pretty damn cool.

Then there was the scene where Frank neutralized numerous men with nothing but a fire hose and his special forces training. And when he leads a chase through the streets of Miami, destroying dozens of police cars and racking up tens of thousands of dollars in property damage. And when he disarms a gang of thugs without breaking a sweat or wrinkling his finely pressed black suit—I think you get the picture. And did I mention the half naked girl with the guns?

All this violence and driving may



FOX

Don't worry, baby, in this type of movie the hero and his girl never die: Jason Statham plays Frank Martin, a delivery man to the stars I guess you could say, in this sequel to 2002's *Transporter*. Although this film will not reveal the meaning of life, there are definitely worse ways to spend an afternoon.

seem a little useless, but *Transporter 2* has a surprisingly devious and interesting plot. The movie follows Frank Martin, a mercenary who will deliver anything, anywhere, anytime, as he tackles his toughest assignment yet: driving a kid to school. This is no ordinary child, however, but the son of Jackson Billings (Mathew Modine), the head of the United States Drug Enforcement Agency. On an otherwise uneventful day, the young Jack Billings (Hinter Clary) is kidnapped by a slick Colombian villain with a keen mind for business. Although this seems to be another run of the mill kidnapping, it is actually

an elaborate plan to infect the entire DEA with a deadly virus that looks unsettlingly like Mountain Dew. I'll spare you the intricacies of the plot, but I promise you each one is as extreme as the next.

Alessandro Gassman plays Gianni, the evil mastermind who is in desperate need of a dental plan and better thugs to watch his back. He is the kind of bad guy that you almost want to like, if it weren't for his pressing desire to infect small children with deadly green liquids. He is joined by his appropriately named sidekick/girlfriend Lola (Kate Nauta), a loose cannon with an avid love for silenced pistols and skimpy lingerie. Em-

phasis on the word loose. Although she is nearly as tough as her boss, and slightly better dressed, the two are hardly a match for our hero, the *Transporter*.

Jason Statham does a marvelous job playing the smooth British professional who uses everything aside from guns as weapons, not including the time he jammed the barrel of a handgun into the neck of an oversized goon. He is flawless in the action scenes, and always seems to have enough breath left in his lungs to drop a quick one-liner and keep the audience laughing. He is so at home in the role, in fact, that one may think he plays this part in every movie.

The film was written by Luc Besson and directed by Louis Leterrier, the mind behind Jet Li's *Unleashed* (2005). *Transporter 2* had all the ingredients for a great action flick: nice cars, stunning action sequences, and moments that are so unrealistic one cannot help but clap their hands and be mindlessly entertained. Mix in a little humor and a huge budget, and you have the perfect movie to pass a Sunday afternoon hangover.

If you are looking for a film that offers anything but a smile, then *Transporter 2* is not for you. If you take yourself and your taste in movies too seriously, then I would suggest staying home and renting *Little Women*. But if every now and then you enjoy a fast-paced film that defies the imagination, and the laws of physics, then I suggest seeing *Transporter 2*. The only thing the movie lacked was a serious love story, which was replaced by, as you may have guessed, a scantily clad girl with two very nice guns. But don't get too excited guys, the biggest stir this girl has to offer is a frightening mental image and an uncanny distrust for emaciated blonds.

GRADE: B-

Sigur Rós: Icelandic group's latest is magic

continued from page 11

More straightforward than "Sé Lest," the following track, "Sæglópur," begins with fragile vocals over grand piano and bells, and builds into a dynamic, piano-driven, messy, explosion of drums and bowed-guitar. The sound is almost unbelievably intense, churning like primordial waters aching to become pregnant with the first life.

Sigur Rós's previous album, (), sprawled for over an hour with scarcely a real melody in sight, relying on beauti-

ful soundscapes and mood, but ultimately disappointing. Midway through *Takk...*, "Milanó" follows the () formula, but, being book-ended by great songs and great melodies, the 10 minutes of concentrated mood and seemingly aimless moaning, climbing through the seamless strings and light drums and bass, climaxing and falling, keep the listener engaged and act as a centerpiece to the album, connecting the dense, emotional, first section of the album with a dreamlike second part.

Beginning the second part of the al-

bum is unique Sigur Rós song. "Gong" sounds more like a song off Radiohead's *Hail to the Thief*, than one of the mood pieces on (), or one of the epic songs from the first two albums. With a fast tempo and frenetic drums, the song hypnotizes the listener while Jónsi sings with force. Following are "Andvari" and "Svo Hljótt," two beautiful ballads, the former of which has three minutes of lush strings with no accompaniment.

The final song, "Heysátan," has one of the most beautiful melodies I have heard in a long time. Picked guitar, faint

trumpets, and the now familiar bell-like keyboard sketch out a backdrop for Jónsi to drop his angelic voice, which he does with grace and sincerity.

The sincerity in Jónsi's voice underscores the heart of the album. "Takk" is Icelandic for "thanks," and the album breathes with gratitude and celebration. *Takk...* is as soft and colorful as a child's prayer of thanksgiving, echoing off the hard surface of an Icelandic boulder. Please, listen to this album.

GRADE: A

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The story behind the habit

BY CAITLIN MURPHY '06
PORTFOLIO STAFF

I am sorry that I make you drink.
For the past 48 hours, I have been interviewing everyone I know, asking them if they know of a quote that runs something like this: "What was it that inspired a God that wrought a world so sad?" I vaguely remembered

SHORT STORY

that this quote was muttered by a famous dying artist as his last words. I had decided it was Picasso, but I wasn't sure.

I had visions in my mind. Picasso on a cot, clutching a glass of foamy, dirty water with paint brushes soggy and rotting, sticking out of it. He had used them that morning. He was gasping and his eyes were wild. And, as he breathed out these last words, yellows and reds and magenta overflowed the dirty glass, spilled down over the sheets covering Picasso's body. They wrapped him, and he pressed his cheek to the liquid flows of color. He cried into them. He was upset that he had to leave a world where color flowed in rivers out of dirty glasses.

But person after person was unable to answer my question, was incapable of telling me anything about this quote. It was almost as if I had conjured it up one night, in a fit or a haze. I fished the last six quarters out of my denim skirt, the one that hangs low on my hips, the one I wear pearls strung through the loops of. I devoted those last few quarters to the internet cafe off the corner of 34th and 5th. And I told myself, "If I am at least able to Google this quote to find out what the exact quote is and who said it, everything else will fall into place."

I Googled. I spent 30 minutes trying every possible combination of quotes and authors and sites devoted to famous last words. I tapped my teeth, I folded and unfolded my legs so many times that the young girl next to me got uncomfortable and left. I wiped my face with exasperation and piled rainbow bangles into their spectrum patterns, over and over, until

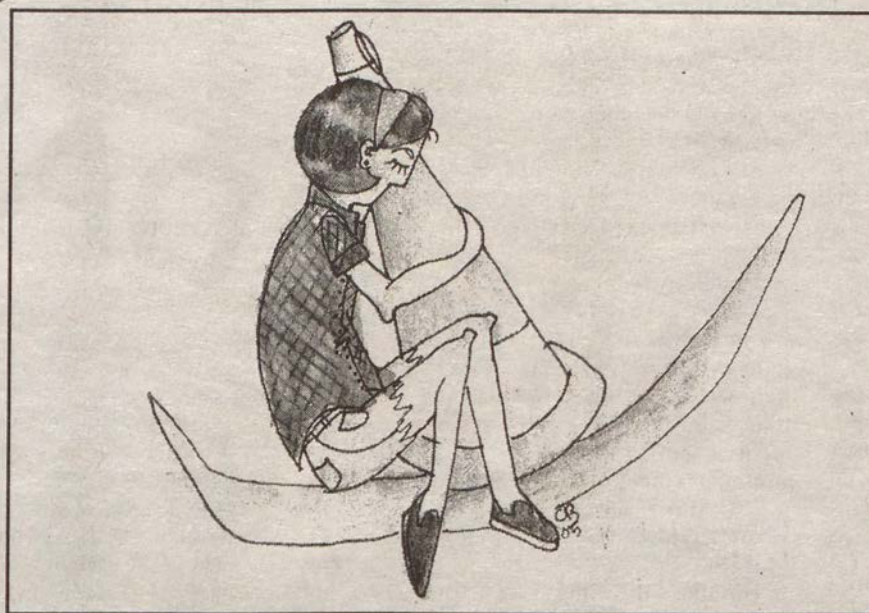


ILLUSTRATION BY CAITLIN BROWN '06/The Cowl

the time ran out on my card. Then the computer blinked, squeaked, and hummed. And I was a disconnected, poverty-stricken, purposeless person, again.

Outside, I sat down next to a traffic cone and hugged it tightly. Tar, or something else, spread thick over my hands. Did it matter? Not really. I leaned my head into the soft, yielding orange plastic.

The truth was, I drove you to drinking. I was the face you were trying to wash out, diluting my profile into a comfortable brown haze, sloshing beer and pupils and hands and lips. I didn't like this responsibility. I actually did care whether you drank yourself to death.

I was not one of those people that you talked to your sister about: "She is a sweet girl, a nice girl, a genuine girl." I was the one that your sister questioned about, "Are you still with her? Oh. You two have been dating for awhile." Flat soda and saltines. Factual.

I hated to be sick because it made me feel like flat ginger ale and mashed up, diluted saltines were coursing through my blood. The day I got better (or con-

vinced myself I was), I would wear wild colors, and go screaming through the streets, buying lilies and honey and painting my face the colors of poison frogs.

I was constantly seeking out that post-illness-high: where the earth was a fresh, molting smell that made me feel frisky, and where I pretended I could do outrageous things, like skateboard, or run a mile. Tiny plastic monkeys out of the 25-cent machines in Walgreen's became lush prizes on pirate hunts. A simple coat of neutral pouty lipgloss made me the most irresistible girl gracing that block in that step, that moment. All heads toward me, me. Me.

I was not the girl your sister was looking for. Comfort was my worst fear, egocentricity was the cause. And believe me, I could pick it apart farther for you, but I was far too busy admiring how good the contrast between my black hair, white neck, black dress, and the sharp curves and turns between all three looked to any stranger in any nightclub.

I tied red and yellow scarves to my ankles and danced on tabletops, and fell into Picasso's outstretched arms. I told

Picasso, "It is so sad, that we feel things so briefly, so violently, so passion-

ately. And then those feelings die. And then we spend the rest of our lives trying to feel them so briefly, again."

He said, "I didn't die on a cot, with colors flowing over me. I didn't die in the ecstasy of art and feeling. I was in incredible pain, and then I was gone."

And I said, "That is why I am on a street corner, hugging a safety cone. And that is exactly why life is so sad."

Picasso snapped his paint brush in his teeth.

I knew you were in a house miles away, drinking heavily. I knew that as many times as I pretended that I was a tame, sweet, sister-approved facet in your life, the opposite actually reigned supreme. I was the one firing up your calm demeanor, pulling you to lows and highs, and kicking you off with a dusty boot at the bottom. And there you lay still, with people surrounding you, encouraging this habit. And still, I was the last image in your head before you passed out.

I am sorry that I make you drink. I spent my last six quarters trying to make it better, trying to make sense of this psyche of mine, trying to figure out the quote, trying to find the meaning behind the sadness in life. But the only reason I had six quarters left is because I had maxed out my credit card again and spent the last of my cash on these fabulous orange, turquoise, and pink strappy sandals.

Picasso whispers, "Great color choice."

The orange cone murmurs, "You witch."

I agree, and watch your head fall forward, in a drunken slump. And I know, the reason the world is so sad is because I make it so.



Providence College—phone home



GRAPHIC BY MEGAN BISHOP '07/The Cowl

BY KATIE HUGHES '06
PORTFOLIO STAFF

I love talking on the phone with my parents. There . . . I said it! Calls usually take place during the day, when I'm walking to class, from class, or in between classes. It began freshman year, when I was mildly homesick (I'm from a town away—go figure) and it felt good to hear a familiar voice. Now with schedules jam-packed, commitments and obligations to honor, phone calls are often the only option to communicate with my family.

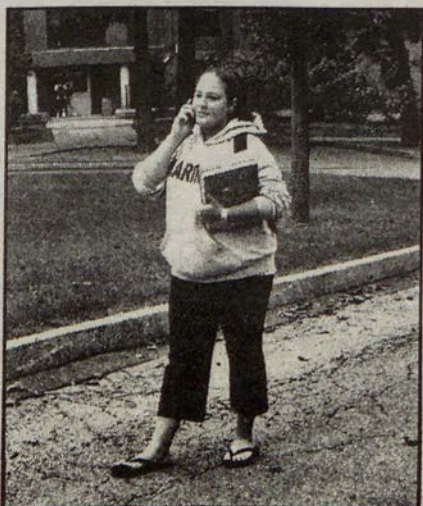
ESSAY

The 11:15 a.m. call on the way to my classes in the morning is like a train schedule—give or take a few minutes and the occasional cancellation. It's like a game of roulette guessing who will answer the phone. Will it be Grandma, Mom, Dad, or possibly the ever-elusive brother? I wait in anticipation, while carrying my bag and a cold Diet Coke from my off-campus abode to my on-campus destination.

If Grandma answers, I have learned to expect conversation regarding bridge, AARP meetings, hairdresser appointments, and upcoming lunch dates. She

begins with "And how's my baby," and ends with "I love you." Grandma always adds how hard my Mom has been working around the house, and includes a list of today's chores.

When Dad answers, it's strictly business. He wants to know that I've eaten breakfast, that I've done my work, and that above all things I'm happy. He tells me that "your mother and grandmother are out at Savers returning their pur-



TRACY DONADIO '06/The Cowl

chases. Their \$1.49 purchases!" or, "Mom and Grandma are out at TJMaxx, ruining our credit." After the update on where Mom and Grandma are, he asks me "What's on your plate for today?" I prattle on about meetings, classes, and rehearsals for a short while, and then we say our "I love you's" and "Goodbyes."

If Mom answers, I know I'm in for a treat. Because, unlike Grandma and Dad, who follow a general pattern of speech, my Mom has no stock outline that she follows in conversation. Some days she will spend 10 minutes describing our cat Phoebe's every movement of that day. Sounds boring, no? Except the way my mother can describe the life of a domestic indoor/outdoor cat, is nothing short of the Jeff Corwin experience. Some days she'll fill me in on what she sold on eBay, to what country, for what price. She then lists things in my room that she wants to sell, but wants to get the "Ok" first. My mom has a way of describing my dad and grandma that makes it sound like she's a warden in the local mental hospital. (Anyone knowing my mother would quickly point out that she, herself, would be the patient leading a mutiny a la *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*). I often have to cut the conversation short with

Mom, because I arrive at my destination (class) and don't want to be late. She has a few catch phrases that she likes to throw in there after the "I love you." Sometimes it's "Give 'em Hell," or "Don't take drugs!" Other times, being particularly silly, she'll end with "Keep your clothes on!"

There is common ground among Mom, Dad, and Grandma. From an outsider's perspective, I suppose it's weird and might seem pretentious. It's the fake kiss. Yes, people, I give and receive fake kisses on the telephone with my family. When we end conversations, the last thing before we hang up the phone, is a couple of fake kisses. It sounds weird, and on many levels I agree wholeheartedly, but it's a tradition. Think of it as a secret code. An "I love you so much that I'm not afraid to look like an idiot blowing kisses on a cell phone" code. And it's true, I'm not afraid.

The importance of phoning home is not limited to extra-terrestrials. Phone Home, PC. If only to remind yourself that you are the normal one in your family.

Kiss kiss.



A brief description of Bobby

BY ALISON ESPACH '07
PORTFOLIO STAFF

I suppose it would be clever of me to start off talking about lights to explain him, because that seems to be what writers are always doing, writing about lights instead of just saying what they really mean. But I'm not too interested in lights anymore. Bobby was right I think, when he said they can be too dangerous. And besides, I can only get so metaphorical.

Don't get me wrong. It's nice and all when you start off. You piece together a few words someone left behind, carefully construct your own line explaining their sparkle. You focus on the brightest one of all that illuminates your life, and then, bam, a fickle hand who calls the shots comes along, and you're left in darkness before you can even ask why.

And you know, I'd be proud of something like that. I was proud of something like that, but then before I knew it, Bobby was all over me, ruining the beauty as he demanded to know more background information on the lights.

"What do the lights mean, Kim? Am I the lights? Someone has to be the lights," he cried, "so explain!"

Bobby always thought he was really smart, and I guess that's no crime or anything, because most people like that are always the ones trying to explain every-

thing, to justify everything.

But I couldn't help it when I told him that if we were really meant to be together, he would have known that the lights weren't a person but just an ideal, you know. Something I was looking for.

It was a dangerous move to put him on the defensive like that, so he took it as his cue to bring in F. Scott Fitzgerald, and his green light, because he always liked to end conversations with a bang, some intellectual reference that pop culture has agreed with for so long nobody could even remember how to question its validity.

"It's dangerous Kim, to keep searching for these lights. Don't you remember what happened to Gatsby?" he said, and reached for my hand.

I took my hand away. But I didn't say anything dramatic. Nothing like you saw in the movies. I didn't scream or shout or even cry, 'This is my hand, my life!' because he never thought anything irrational was smart.

So, calmly, I asked him, who really cares about the green light anyway?

"All Americans do."

"Well, I never asked to be American," I told him.

But that's the thing with metaphors. You make one once, and everybody starts thinking you are really deep and *always* speaking in metaphors.

"You don't want this anymore, is that what you are saying?" he asked, and it had become too late to explain the dis-

inction between my words, between him and America, and lights that can and can't be trusted, because in the end, I thought he was supposed to just know these things.

Before he packed up his things, I tried to remind him how simple I was. Made a quick joke, you know, because he was leaving so fast, and I quickly said, "You know, Bobby, Fitzgerald was just a drunk anyway." He slammed the lamp

"I guess I shouldn't always try to be so clever. I told you it gets me nowhere, even if it's beautiful at first, because in the end, nobody seems to like it too much."

in the cardboard box, and didn't turn his head to meet my eyes, the way he did when he found me amusing.

I should have stopped, but I kept going. I made another crack, something stupid about how I bet the only thing his green light shone upon was the path to the psych ward.

"He'd probably have a good old laugh about how we are even fighting about his story," I said, in one last attempt to keep his watch on my nightstand.

He fastened it to his wrist. "One day

Kim, I hope you see the light."

So I thought this would be a good time to be clever and said, "Hopefully, no pun intended."

His hand was on the door, and the box under his arms. Then he spoke his last words to me.

"Clever, Kim, really clever. But if you were that clever, you'd know using hopefully as an adverb before the subject is sign of poor education. An absence of refinement, really."

People are always missing the point, even the ones like Bobby, who sought out the meaning in everything. And even when he wasn't missing the point, he was too busy crafting his own.

I guess I shouldn't always try to be so clever. I told you it gets me nowhere, even if it's beautiful at first, because in the end, nobody seems to like it too much.

For a moment, I almost believed. In the dream, that is. But now I get it. Now I remember who I am. Lights are just lights. They turn on. They turn off.

And that's it, really.



www.about.com

Poetry Corner

"There is poetry as soon as we realize that we possess nothing." —John Cage

Sapphire Feathers

BY ASHLEY LAFERRIERE '06
PORTFOLIO STAFF

You are the only person in this world
To make sense.
And you are trying to leave it.

This is fitting, I suppose.

One by one they are dying.
Sapphire feathers,
Shriveled scales,
Large unending eyes.
Smashed in this stampede
Of industrial strength.
I am one of them,
You are one of them,
Ignorantly bleeding to death.

The world is crushed by indifference.

There is no such thing as separation.
A baby is born,
And somewhere, a child starves.
The temperature rises,
And somewhere, a city is lost.

Consume. You'll feel better.

Destruction is the goal
Domination is the answer.
If we are to be the last.
If we are to validate our supremacy.
Tell your children what birdsongs were like.

Their children will have no voices.

You are one of the rarest.
They are always the first to go.

After it's over,
No one will understand why
Their fingerprints are everywhere.
No one will know where
To place the blame.
After all, we've fallen.

Nothing can be our fault.

She Said, He Said



Making PC an emotionally stable place,
one letter at a time...

IS THAT LEPROSY ON YOUR NECK?
OR DID YOU JUST HAVE A REALLY GOOD WEEKEND?

Dear Tiffany and Earl,

I'm a female freshman here at Providence College, and like most freshmen I make mistakes. Upon waking up on this past Sunday morning I realized I had much more than a headache. As I groggily peered into the mirror I noticed there were hickeys down my neck. Not just one, but a trail—a snaking trail of, what I guess, you can call passion. I'm so embarrassed that I have barricaded myself in McVinney. Do you know any quick at-home remedies? Please Help!

Branded and Bruised

Dear Branded,

Luckily for girls who still enjoy lying on the quad in their bikinis but, unluckily for you, we are in the throngs of an Indian summer. Therefore the most obvious option of a turtleneck is completely inappropriate. So please, don't draw attention to yourself and think it's ok to wear long sleeves when it's above 70 degrees.

The next logical option would be the application of foundation, but please make sure to BLEND. There is nothing worse than a girl with spotty foundation not really covering up her advertisement of a drunken Saturday evening.

But, sometimes you've just got to live with it. Wear the hair down, and accept it. Choices have consequences, but at least you won't be living with it for 18 years.

Dear Branded,

First and foremost I must apologize—I tend to get a little rough when intimate. Secondly, this isn't something to be ashamed of,—hickeys are a great way to meet guys. Why would you want to hide something that circumvents the awkward time that precedes all relationships?

With your red badges of honor, you will have a bright red neon sign flashing on your neck saying, "Yes, I am comfortable with my lack of morals and desire for fruitful polygamous relationships."

As a college student I know the issues that my peers deal with, and there is nothing worse than the uncomfortable glances, and then subsequent talking before finding out whether I might get lucky with a girl or if she's prude. So this weekend when you go out, I say SUCK AWAY.

Tiffany

EARL



A view from the other side of clouds

BY MEGAN BISHOP '07
PORTFOLIO EDITOR

Maye forced herself to sit outside when the weather was agreeable. Simple tasks were always improved by sunlight, soft winds and sweet smelling air. Clouds

SHORT STORY

were the biggest enemy, drops of rain, the apocalypse. When the weather turned cold and dark she hid from sight, often within the comfort of a large, blue faded armchair in the warmest room of that house. I say "that" as if you know everything about the house. As if you could smell the food cooking, or touch the coating of cold cream that was layered atop everything—every phone receiver, pencil, and light switch in that house. I never noticed it when I was younger. Back then, Maye's house was a castle, built up by cardboard bricks and lipstick kisses. But years later, standing outside and looking into its foggy windows, I noticed the chipped shingles and the cracked driveway, and for the first time, wondered if this really is the same place from my childhood.

The sky was cloudless, a perfect blue. I would always look into the sky on days like these, positive that it was the bluest it had been, or ever would be. With nothing to reference it to but my own spotty memory, I became certain that I was witnessing the bluest sky in the history of the created world.

"Shitty day, huh?" Maye spoke to me, her eyes closed, lying on a Hawaiian print hammock wearing a large sun hat and her garden gloves.

"Maye, it's 72 degrees and there isn't a cloud in the sky," I said, barely splitting my lips.

"Humid," she replied, closing her eyes and breathing in the sunlight.

I knew she loved the way the sun warmed her, and I knew she was content with the weather. If she didn't complain there would be little else to say at this stage in our lives. I accepted it as tradition, just as she used to bandage my scraped knees and melt my tears with hot cocoa. Now our encounters were filled

with banter, unpleasant topics and world events.

I sit next to her in the lawn chair that just happens to be there. She wants me to believe that, I'm sure. But I know it's just for me, sometimes sitting empty for days. I know she sits in that hammock even when I'm not around, just watching the clouds as they pass, wondering how they appear from the other side, the view from heavenly gates and spaceships. I know she thinks this because she asked me one day. I hated how easily the question of a heavenly view rolled off her tongue, as if it had been sitting there awhile, festering in the heat of her saliva and anxiety.

I pretended not to hear her and asked about Cambodia.

Maye had been my savior when I was younger, always able to reach things in high places, take me on long walks to places my parents would never allow me, and spoiling my dinner with coffee ice cream. When my mother and I first moved into our house Maye came over to welcome us to the neighborhood. She carried with her a vegetable platter, as if she was on her way to a Fourth of July cookout.

"Why thank you, so healthy..." my mother had said, holding the front door open while Maye stepped inside. I was six years old, lying on my side on the fresh gray carpet, watching "The Price is Right," and debating the price of laundry detergent.

"Ma!" I had shouted, "How much do you pay for Tiiiide?"

Maye looked right into my eyes and smiled, "For that size, I'd say \$3.35."

Bob Barker then revealed the price—\$3.30. Maye's guess was closer than my mother, the perpetual shopper, ever got and from that moment on Maye amazed me. She was much older than my mother; a whole extra generation of memories filled her head, and embedded themselves in cracks on her face. She began babysitting me the following afternoon.

Despite the age gap, she was the only adult that was forever a friend, and always on my side. I never ate vegetables

again around her, and I have never seen them in her house. I'd like to think of that first platter as an offering to my mother, part of a résumé proving that she would be a well qualified babysitter. An exaggerated résumé yes, but white lies were helpful, Maye told me once. Over time I'm sure my mother realized I wasn't watching PBS, listening to classical music and eating turnips while in Maye's company. But soon my mother was away more than she was home, working her way from one promotion to the next. In her eyes as long as I wasn't alone, a little coffee ice cream and "Jenny Jones" could do no harm. Maye

watched me grow, learn, make mistakes, and then watched me leave—stumbling my way through college, four states away. Somehow, I knew it hurt her. She stayed the same, of course, eating coffee ice cream, lying in the sun when it was warm, and hiding in the winter. I always felt like I stole a piece of her when I left. As if the framed picture that hung in my dorm room kept her from becoming something other than my babysitter, my second mother.

And now, 14 years since I wondered about the price of Tide, me and Maye had become more of a formality to one another. As I pulled into her driveway on most days it wasn't excitement that drew me to turn the wheel, but guilt.

"How's that boy you've been seeing?" Maye asked me, eyes still closed.

"Oh, yeah he's okay..." I began to pick at my nails, then clicking them on one another.



ILLUSTRATION BY KATIE RUTKOWSKI '07/The Cowl

Maye slowly opened her right eye, and I could feel her watch me as I clicked. "Dumped you for the best friend he's just discovered he's in love with?"

I stopped clicking.

"Why is it always doomsday to you? Why think the worst in people? And for God's sake, get your windows cleaned, get this driveway fixed. You're living in such a rut."

My words hung in the air until she opened her other eye, and turned her head to look at me. "Secretary?"

I began clicking my nails again and looked right at her. "A nun, actually. She decided he was better suited to fulfill her than life at the convent. If you know what I mean..."

We both erupted into a deep laughter that seemed to float around us, easing the humid air.

A tale of two cousins—A dash of two cultures

BY KRISTINA REARDON '08
PORTFOLIO STAFF

Pocahontas was not a Native American. She was Slovenian.

At least, that's what my mother's cousin Igor will have you believe, if he

ESSAY

corners you at a family picnic and begins to regale you with his so-called findings regarding the former republic of Yugoslavia.

But Pocahontas is beside the point. The reason Cousin Igor was in my small town of Uxbridge on a breezy Sunday afternoon this summer actually had nothing to do with her—it had to do with the month-long visit of my 22-year-old Slovenian cousin, Andreja.

The itinerary was ready: lunch, snack, bathroom breaks—they were all scheduled in amidst tourist locations in New York City. The phone calls to the Slovenian consulate were made. Bags were packed. He wouldn't need a map.

Cousin Igor was set to conquer the world, or at least show Andreja around New York City, Slovenian-style.



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What "Slovenian-style" actually is... it's hard to describe. For most of my childhood, I was fooled into believing that Cousin Igor was the model Slovenian. As such, he would phone and write to at least one Slovenian relative a day, he would engage in popular Slovenian practices, such as playing the accordion, and he would eat Slovenian



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foods, such as cabbage and sauerkraut. The true Slovenian, I was convinced, would value hard work, family, and the Catholic religion, just as I was taught.

Fast forward to Sunday for the Lagoja-Zdravic family picnic, at the Reardon house, where my image of the Slovenian people, all holding hands in traditional costume, dancing to accordion music, basking in the smell of sauerkraut, was shattered.

It turns out that Slovenians, real, live, breathing Slovenian people are more or less like you and me!

Cousin Igor would hear none of this. But I know the truth now.

You see, Andreja is actually

Slovenian, and try as he might, Cousin Igor will never really be able to change the fact that he was born in the United States. He has been not-so-secretly jealous of my mother since childhood, since she had the honors of being born overseas.

What Cousin Igor idealized, then, was the Slovenia his parents still hold on to—the Slovenia of their youth: the 1940s and '50s.

The American equivalent of the Slovenian mother cooking stuffed cabbage while her husband taught the children polka music would be a scene out of "Leave it to Beaver." You know, June Cleaver, wearing the pearls as she vacuums the house.

When was the last time you saw that in America? Probably around the last time you saw the Slovenian scenario I just described, unless of course, you tune into reruns on a regular basis.

If Cousin Igor chose to face reality, he would lament the loss of Slovenian culture. Andreja could identify nearly every song on the Top 40 station that was playing in the background. There are McDonald's in nearly every town in Slovenia. The last time one of my mother's uncles, who lives in Slovenia, entered a Catholic church, it was for his daughter's Confirmation. He said he thought the roof would fall down on his head, he hadn't been in so many years.

Andreja lives with her boyfriend, as so many Americans today live together before marriage.

The ultimate in Slovenian insult, though, came with an innocent question to Andreja.

"How are Josko and Boris?" my mother asked, inquiring about her cousins who still live in Slovenia.

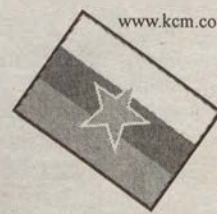
"Good, I think," she replied, saying the last time she had seen them was at a funeral. "We don't keep in touch with the family."

My mother was a bit surprised, but I doubt Cousin Igor even chose to hear any of it. He was busy trying to ask about how soon he could send his two daughters, both under age 5, to Slovenia to learn the language. Later, he begged my 16-year-old sister to play some traditional Slovenian tunes for us all on the piano.

"Did you tell Andreja about all the Slovenian athletes?" he asked me. I had no idea there were any. He chuckled as he whipped out a list of six baseball and basketball players, and made Andreja take careful notes as he described them.

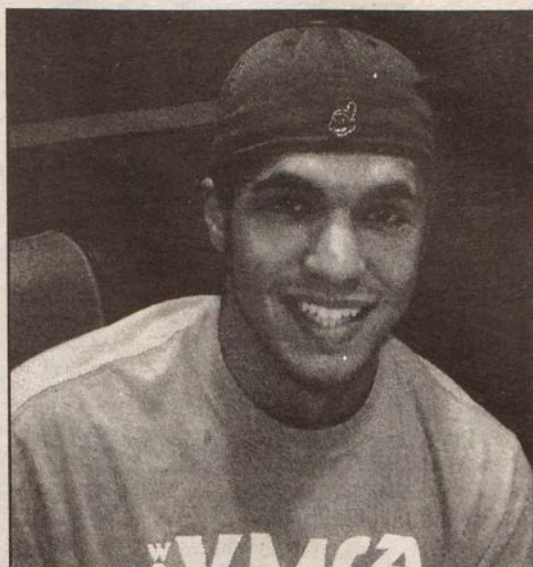
He asked about our plans for the coming week, and what Andreja and I would be doing. Most regretfully, I was forced to decline an invitation to a Slovenian gathering in Steelton, Penn. in favor of attending an *American Idol* concert.

That was okay, Igor informed me. There would always be next year. And by the way, had I heard about Pocahontas? She was really Slovenian, you know. The whole Native American thing was all just modernist hype.



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If you could ask us one question, what would you ask?



"What do you guys think of the freshmen girls?"
Kyle Marcou '08

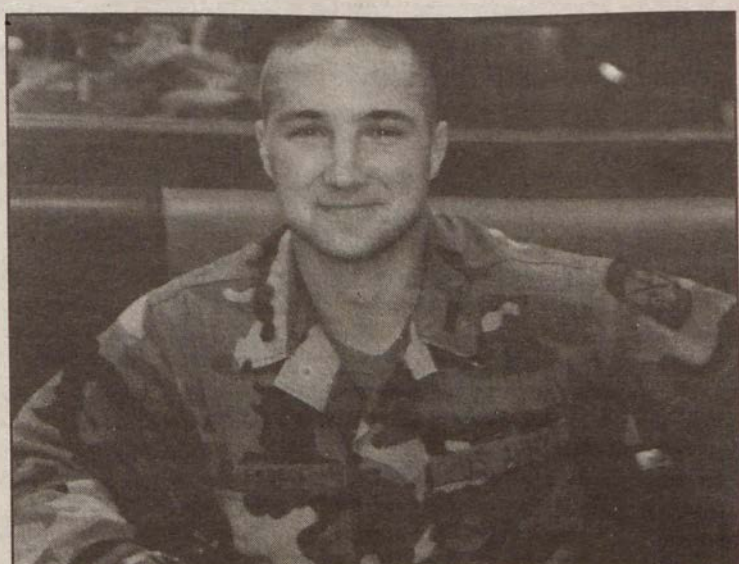


"Do you like a Canadian girl?"
Brittany Simpson '09



"Boxers or briefs?"

Jen Arts '06, Martha McCahill '06, Amanda Thornton '07, and Katherine Burke '07



"If you could ask me one question, what would you ask?"
Pete Farese '06



"Are you single?"
Sondra Watrous '07



George W. Bush

"I don't feel the need to answer that. But hey, look, I can dance."

Friars Scoreboard

Scores --- Standings --- Statistics --- Schedules --- Standouts

Standouts



Allison Baker

Volleyball

Senior – Glastonbury, Conn.

Baker led the Friars to their first win this weekend in the second annual Friar Invitational. She averaged 3.30 kills per game and 2.45 digs per game for this past week which earned her a spot on the All-Tournament Team.



Chris Konopka

Men's Soccer

Junior – Tom's River, N.J.

Konopka was named ECAC Division I goalkeeper of the week on Sept. 20. He recorded eight saves in both of the team's Big East games against Louisville and Cincinnati. Both games ended in a 1-1 tie.

Scores

Wednesday 9/14

Volleyball at Holy Cross L, 3-1

Friday 9/16

Volleyball vs. High Point L, 3-0

Field Hockey vs. Rhode Island L, 3-2 (OT)

Volleyball vs. Gardner-Webb L, 3-1

Women's Soccer at New Hampshire L, 2-0

Men's Soccer at Louisville T, 1-1 (2 OT)

Saturday 9/17

Volleyball vs. Sacred Heart W, 3-2

Volleyball vs. Hartford L, 3-1

Women's Tennis at Rhode Island Ind. Res.

Sunday 9/18

Women's Soccer vs. Connecticut L, 1-0

Field Hockey at Dartmouth L, 2-1 (OT)

Men's Soccer at Cincinnati T, 1-1 (2 OT)

Wednesday 9/21

Field Hockey vs. Boston College L, 4-3

Schedules

Friday 9/23

Women's Soccer vs. South Florida 1:00 p.m.

Men's Soccer vs. Syracuse 4:00 p.m.

Volleyball vs. Fairleigh Dickinson (at Marist) 12:00 p.m.

Volleyball at Marist 2:00 p.m.

Saturday 9/17

Field Hockey vs. Maine 11:00 a.m.

Men's Cross Country at Roy Griak Invit. 10:20 a.m.

Women's Cross Country at Roy Griak Invit. 11:10 a.m.

Volleyball vs. Princeton (at Marist) 12:00 p.m.

Sunday 9/18

Field Hockey vs. Colgate 1:00 p.m.

Men's Soccer vs. St. John's 2:00 p.m.

Women's Tennis at Hartford 11:00 a.m.

Women's Soccer at Marquette 2:00 p.m.

Standings

FinishLynx Women's Cross Country Poll 9/21/05

Rank	Team	Pts.	Rank	Team	Pts.
1	Duke (7)	384	11	Providence	255
2	Colorado (6)	382	12	Wake Forest	242
3	Notre Dame	364	13	Arkansas	234
4	Michigan	348	14	Princeton	219
5	Stanford	339	15	UCSB	207
6	Brigham Young	319	16	Illinois	193
7	Arizona State	309	17	Tennessee	176
8	N.C. State	290	18	Michigan State	163
9	Villanova	279	19	Missouri	153
10	Columbia	266	20	Baylor	137

Men's Soccer Big East Standings 9/21/05

	W	L	T	Pts.
Blue Division				
Georgetown	1	1	0	3
Notre Dame	1	1	0	3
West Virginia	1	1	0	3
Providence	0	0	2	2
Seton Hall	0	1	1	1
Marquette	0	1	1	1
Connecticut	0	2	0	0
Pittsburgh	0	2	0	0

Men's Soccer:All tied up

Friars: 0-1 in Big East

continued from back page

but we settled down. They came out with a lot of venom coming off their win over UConn, but we settled down and took control of the game in the second half."

Indeed, the Friars did just that. As Ryan Maduro was pulled down in the penalty box, the referee signaled a penalty kick, and senior striker Eoin Lynch converted the chance in the 56th minute to knot the score at 1. Providence continued to dictate much of the flow of play as regulation time expired. Senior midfielder Anthony Petrarca provided

“Undoubtedly, the [home opener is the] biggest game of the season . . . Syracuse is off to a great start, they're 4-1-1. It's going to be a definite challenge for our group.

Chaka Daley,
Head Coach

some notably strong two way play during this period in aiding the Providence cause.

Once in overtime, the story was much

the same in Cincinnati as it had been in Louisville. Each team had its share of chances, but neither converted.

"We had more chances, but they had the best chance [in overtime]," Coach Daley said, "Fortunately for us, Chris [Konopka] made the save."

Konopka's Herculean efforts between the pipes (16 saves on 18 shots between the two games) garnered him the Big East Men's Soccer Goalkeeper of the Week Award, and the two wins left the Friars standing strong at 2-0-4. For Providence, this marks the first time since 1972 that the team has been undefeated through the first six games of the season. However, lest the Friars begin to relax, they now face the task of winning their Big East home opener against Syracuse on Friday.

"Undoubtedly, the biggest game of the season. I know we've said that for every game, but that's because every game is significant," Coach Daley explained. "We'd like a positive result. The players are looking forward to it, the coaching staff is looking forward to it. Syracuse is off to a great start, they're 4-1-1. It's going to be a definite challenge for our group."

With the stage set, opening kickoff will be at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 23.

continued from back page

viewing tip from earlier?).

PC's other excellent chance of the match was once again the result of the dangerous feet of Mastrodonato. Receiving a good ball from freshman midfielder Kelly Petterson, the tricky junior beat three defenders before losing possession in the UConn box.

Vieira did see positives in her team's loss. "UConn dominated a majority of the possession so we had to play defense most of the time but we held up strong," she said. "The communication for us was a lot better. It was a real physical battle so it was a good result considering that and the fact that UConn is one of the stronger teams we'll face all year."

"The box score is misleading," McGirr offered. "I felt like our performance was tremendous, we played well. I told the team that if we present that type of performance the rest of the season, we'll get a playoff spot."

With the loss, PC fell to 3-4-0 overall, 0-1-0 in the Big East. They host South Florida on Friday at Glay Field at 1:00 p.m. (followed by the Men vs. Syracuse at 4:00 p.m.) in a PC soccer double-header. On Sunday, they'll travel to Wis-

consin to meet Marquette—another new member of the Big East—the 17th-ranked team in the country. Fedyshyn and her teammates are certainly fired up for the rest of their Big East contests.

"At practice (Monday), we were talking about how we have 10 Big East games left. We're excited, we feel like there's no one we couldn't beat the rest of the way. Four or five wins seems like the requirement to make the Big East tournament."

During the summer, the conference expanded to 16 teams and the top ten teams (five from each division) will make the tournament.

McGirr's Friars were paid a lofty compliment by UConn's legendary head coach Len Tsantiris—who's been at UConn for 25 years and guided the Huskies to four NCAA Championship games and over 400 career wins—after Sunday's game.

McGirr relayed the story of how after their game Sunday, Tsantiris came up to him and he said, "it's good to see another Big East team on the rise; it's the best PC's women's team has looked in years." The Friars would like nothing better than to prove Tsantiris prophetic beginning with this Friday's game.

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Sport Shorts

All the news we couldn't fit...but did

Women's Volleyball hosts second annual Friar Invitational

The Providence College Women's Volleyball team hosted the four-team Friar Invitational this past weekend, an event which featured teams from High Point University, Sacred Heart University, and Gardner-Webb University, and the University of Hartford, along with the Friars themselves.

High Point emerged as tournament champs after compiling a 4-0 record in round robin play. PC ended the tourney with a 1-3 record, but that win marked their first of the current campaign, a 3-2 thriller over Sacred Heart on Day 2 of the event. The Friars took the opener by a score of 30-22, before dropping the next two games to put themselves in a 2-1 hole. PC recovered with back-to-back wins to take the match three games to two.

Senior Allison Baker led the Friars with 24 kills against Sacred Heart, while senior Annie Fiorvanti notched 32 assists. Freshman Amanda Little amassed 49 digs against Sacred Heart, and a grand total of 114 in the four matches.

Little's stellar efforts did not go unnoticed, and for her play she was named the Division I Independent Volleyball Defensive Player of the Week. Her 270 digs this season gives her an average of 5.51 per game, which ranks her 14th nationally.

The Friars dropped matches to the other teams at the Invitational, but on an individual level they achieved success. In addition to Little's national recognition, Baker and freshman Jeanette Toney were named to the All-Tournament Team for their play over the weekend.

PC returns to action this weekend when it participates in the Marist tour-

nament in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. In addition to the hosts, the Friars will take on Farleigh Dickinson and Princeton. The Friars have another match against Farleigh Dickinson, this one at home, next Wednesday.

Swimming and diving teams to swim for Katrina

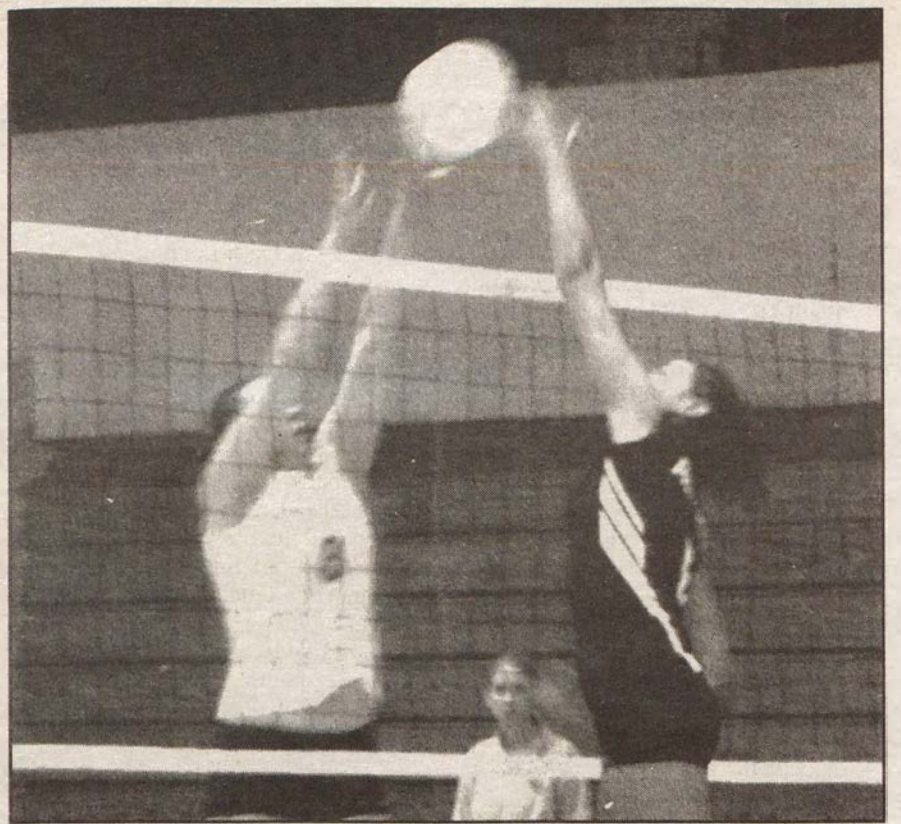
The Providence College Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving teams will hold a special event for the victims of Hurricane Katrina this Saturday, Sept. 24. From 7:00 a.m. to noon, both Friars swimmers and their counterparts from the Providence Aquatic Club will participate in a swim-for-support, with all proceeds going straight to the Rhode Island Chapter of the American Red Cross.

The swimmers will each finish 200 laps, and donations per lap are being accepted now. All those who wish to donate are encouraged to contact Jon Caswell, head swimming & diving coach, at 401-865-2268.

Friars travel to Kingston to compete in URI Invitational

The Providence College Women's Tennis team had their second outing of the season over the weekend, competing in the University of Rhode Island Invitational. Both an individual and a doubles tournament, the Invitational gave ten Friars the opportunity to test their skills.

Of those who competed for PC, it was junior Jen Daigle who acquitted herself best. Playing at the No. 1 spot, Daigle compiled a 3-0 mark over the weekend, posting wins over Fairfield (6-0, 6-0), Sacred Heart (6-2, 6-2), and Rhode Island (6-2, 6-1). In addition, Daigle and senior No. 2 Sara Bitetti posted a 1-1



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

Freshman Amanda Little had quite the week, compiling 114 digs in 4 matches to earn Division I Independent Volleyball Defensive Player of the Week. Little helped lead the Friars to their first win of the season against Sacred Heart.

record, defeating Fairfield 8-6 but losing to Sacred Heart by that same score.

Other Friars performed well also. Freshman Megan Gilroy took two out of her three matches, while she and her doubles partner—fellow freshman Ashley Risolo—posted wins over Fairfield and Sacred Heart, by scores of 8-6 and 8-1 respectively. Sophomore Erin Kenaga won all three of her matches

on the day, defeating URI in singles and teaming up with freshman Amy Davagian to beat Fairfield (8-6) and sophomore Katherine Danaher to topple Sacred Heart (8-6).

The Women's Tennis team returns to action this Sunday, when they visit Hartford to take on the Hawks.

—compiled by Kevin O'Brien '07



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Double overtime and triple losses for field hockey

BY GREG HARTWELL '07
SPORTS STAFF

The Providence College Women's Field Hockey team dropped two tough decisions this past weekend as it lost both games in overtime. The University of

FIELD HOCKEY

Rhode Island overcame the Friars on Friday, Sept. 16 with a 3-2 score while on Sunday, Sept. 18, Dartmouth University would go through two overtimes with the Friars before taking away a 2-1 victory in a penalty stroke shootout.

Playing host to the URI Rams this past Friday, the girls were in hope of adding another notch in their win column after a rather unsuccessful road trip to Iova. However, despite a 2-1 previous record against the Rams in their past three outings under Head Coach Diane Madl's leadership, the Friars continued to increase their losing streak.

As the game began, Rhode Island took the lead off of a penalty corner at the 28:41 mark in the game. Due in part to a strong defensive effort by PC that would be the sole goal of the half for the Rams, but PC themselves would be held scoreless as well.

"The statistics are an indication of how we played," said Head Coach Diane Madl, "unfortunately the score didn't reflect that."

This comment is based on the fact that the Friars out-shot the Rams 19-2 in the first half despite being held scoreless, and finished the game with a total of 36 shots to the Rams' 10, 23 of which were on goal.

Coming out in the second half, sophomore Abby Maguire netted Providence's first goal of the game after collecting a rebound from a previous shot saved by the Rams keeper. Maguire tallied the goal for PC 11:25 into the second half, and at 52:57 junior Emily Ewens took the lead for the Friars with her third goal of the season, as she blew one past the Rams keeper off of a pass from Maguire.

As the remainder of the second half slowly ticked away, it seemed as though the Friars would walk away with another win. Unfortunately, with 1:25 left to play in regulation, URI's Christin Kazmierski netted the game tying goal, which forced overtime. 7:37 into the first overtime, Rams' Jeannie Records ended the Friars' hopes by netting the game winner.

"It was a game that we can learn from," said Madl. "All there is to do now is to take each game as they come and with them find a way to get some wins."

After every loss a team does their best to come out the next game and correct the mistakes that were made in the previous. That was the case here except as luck, or lack there-of would have it, the

ladies would soon find themselves in a familiar position.

Both Dartmouth and PC came out strong Sunday. Neither team was able to develop much offensively, resulting in both teams' reliance on their defense to keep them in the game.

With strong showings on both sides of the ball, the first goal came from Ewens to give PC the lead with only 3:27 left in the first half, as she netted her goal unassisted, marking her fourth of the season and the first of the game.

With less than five minutes remaining in regulation play, Dartmouth was finally able to get themselves on the board. This goal tied the score at 1-1 and as the time ran out the Friars once again found themselves forced into an overtime situation after victory seemed imminent.

Out-shooting Dartmouth, 5-4 during the course of the two overtimes, including a 4-2 advantage of shots on net in the second overtime, the Friars fell into the same problem as in the past and were unable to produce goals.

Fortunately neither could Dartmouth, forcing a penalty stroke shoot off. It was here that freshman Jessica Lane, the first stroker for PC, netted her attempt, finishing the Friar effort as the only one to do so. Dartmouth, after missing their first attempt, went on to score on three straight strokes to finally end the game with a win.

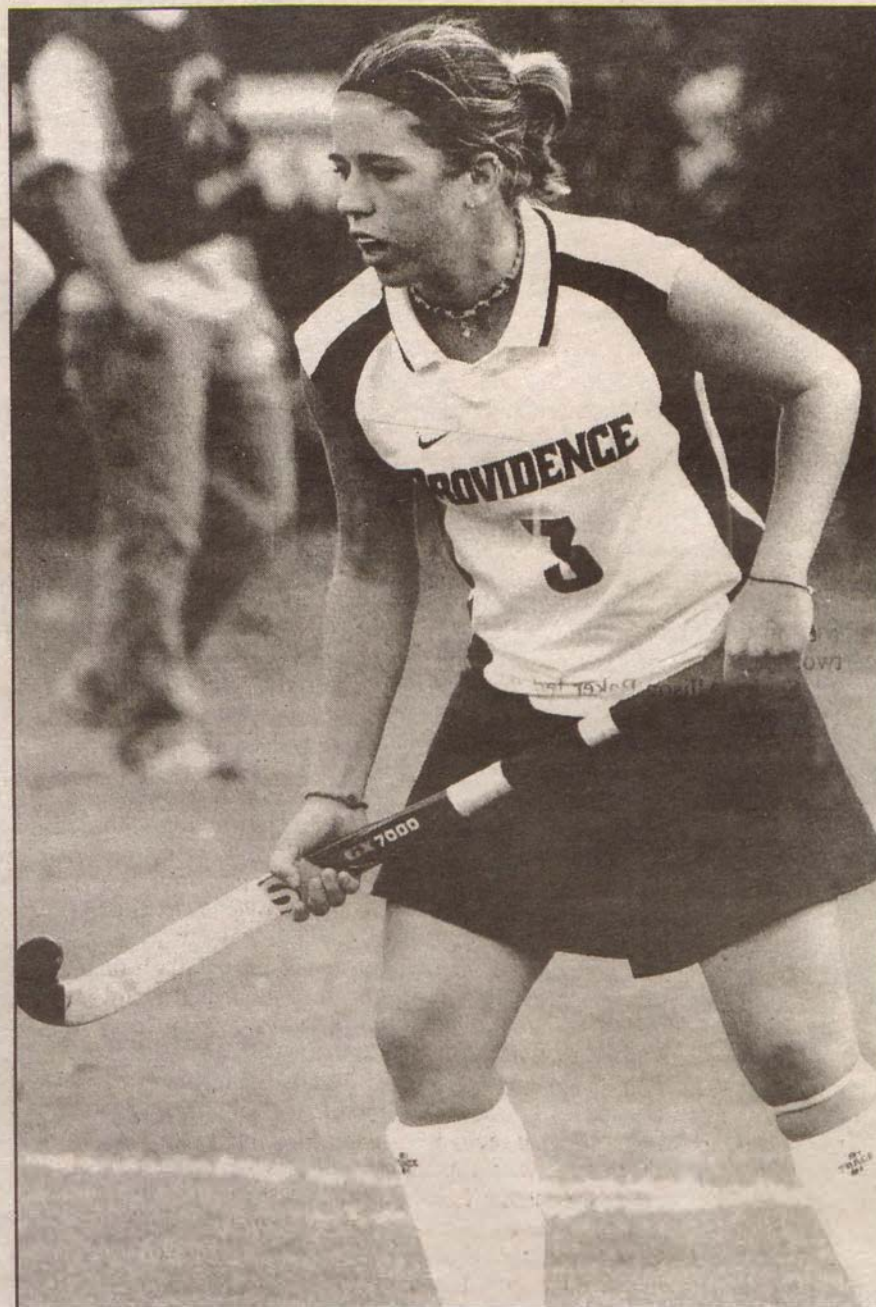
"It was a hard fought game," said Madl. "I was proud of the strength with which the girls played with. We knew that Dartmouth was going to be tough competition, but after our hard play it was disheartening to watch us lose. We learned from our overtime loss against URI and after making some adjustments we were able to play real hard but unfortunately were unable to capitalize."

"As a team I think that we are playing real well," said junior Melissa McGow. "We have just been getting really unlucky. Hopefully we can continue to do well as a team and get some wins. A win against BC would be great for we have worked hard and we deserve it. It would be a good upset and a good way to boost our confidence."

Yesterday the Friars took on the 18th-ranked Boston College Eagles on their home turf. Despite Providence's 4-3 loss to the Eagles, the team did not quit until the buzzer went off.

This past year the Eagles have made the transition from the Big East Conference to the ACC. The last time the two teams played was exactly one year ago when the Eagles left with a victory after four unanswered goals in the second half, ending the game 5-1. With a change of conference and team, PC was optimistic about their chances.

"BC always has an excellent pro-



TRACY DONADIO '06/The Cowl

Junior Emily Ewens got the ball rolling for Providence College Women's Field Hockey team this past week as she scored the teams first goal in its games against Rhode Island and Dartmouth. She also picked up another goal against Boston College on Wednesday night.

gram," said Madl. "We are hoping to play with the same mentality and discipline that we did against Iowa, only this time come out on top with another win. We are just going to play our game and try to give BC a reminder of what it's like to play in the Big East."

Providence came out confident, controlling much of the game, contrary to the end result. Abby Maguire put the Friars on top, scoring 30 seconds into the game. Jessica Weinstein added another goal for PC 15 minutes in, giving Providence the 2-0 lead.

BC managed to put one up before the half was over though, as the half ended

2-1, PC. However, when the two teams returned from the half, Boston came out scoring, picking up two more in the first 10 minutes to put them ahead 3-2.

But Providence's Emily Ewens tied up the match up off of a penalty corner from McGow. The game remained tied up until the final minutes when BC scored with less than four minutes to go.

Although the Friars were desperate to put the match into overtime, they were unable to score before game ended.

Providence continues its five game home stand on Saturday morning with another non-conference game against Colgate University.

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SPORTS

SEPTEMBER 22, 2005

Friars remain unbeaten after pair of draws

BY DREW GOUCHER '08
SPORTS STAFF

This past weekend, the Providence College Men's Soccer team produced 1-1 ties in away games against Louisville and Cincinnati to remain undefeated so far this season. With the two draws, the Friars record improved to 2-0-4.

MEN'S SOCCER

Both games ended with a final score of 1-1, starting with the game against Louisville on Sept. 16. This was the first Big East tilt for the Friars on the young season, so it held a greater importance than the four previous non-league contests. Despite being outshot, the Friars actually struck first in the contest, as freshman Tim Ritter converted a cross pass from Ryan Maduro in the 68th minute. The pass found Ritter open in the box, and he sent the ball home for his second tally of the season, giving the Friars a 1-0 lead.

Louisville, however, was determined to sustain pressure. The Friars continued to do their best defensively to hold down the fort and cling to the one-goal lead. Soccer head coach Chaka Daley referred to the Louisville attack as an "onslaught," as the Friars did their best to hold the lead and keep Louisville at bay.

"We were weathering the storm, trying to pull off the win," he said, "They had a lot of shots."

And as the clock continued to count upwards toward that magical 90 minute mark, the Friars looked like they might

actually hang on to win the game. But Louisville knotted the score in the final minute. With just 52 seconds remaining, as a corner kick led to a Louisville goal. With the score tied 1-1, the overtime periods began.

During the two overtimes, each team had a quality scoring chance. For Providence, junior midfielder Joseph Weill had a great chance to score, but was unable to convert. Louisville had several chances to score, including one that ended with a fabulous save by junior Providence net minder Chris Konopka.

"It was a little bit of a disappointment," said Coach Daley, referring to losing the lead late as well as the difficulties inherent in facing a fellow Big East school on the road, "They carried the last 30 minutes of the game, but we definitely didn't deserve to lose either."

He then added conclusively, "It was a fair result."

Two days later, the Friars went to the University of Cincinnati for a Sunday match with the Bearcats, another Big East road game.

Cincinnati was coming off a huge win over the nationally ranked University of Connecticut Huskies. UConn has been ranked #1 by Soccer America and appears in the top five of several other prominent national polls. Riding the high of their upset victory, the Bearcats took the fight to Providence early and netted the first goal.

"They scored five minutes in," Coach Daley said, "Granted there was some poor defending by us on a corner kick,

MEN'S SOCCER/Page 21



Senior Eoin Lynch scored the equalizer from the penalty spot in PC's game versus Cincinnati on Sunday. The Friars, now 2-0-4 on the season, have earned two hard-fought draws so far in Big East play.

COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

Big East slate underway for Women's Soccer

BY RICH SLATE '06
SPORTS STAFF

Twelve of the 20 players on the PC Women's Soccer team hail from locations outside of New England. They all go to college in Rhode Island, but this doesn't necessarily mean they love the Ocean State, or New England in general for that matter. Naturally, everyone feels pride and attachment to whatever part of the world they're from.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Despite that, if you had asked them last week, the PC women's soccer team would have told you that they all loved New England and couldn't get enough of it. They were in love with clam chowder, Boston accents, the Patriots and any other New England cliché you can think of. This week, however, the Friars probably changed their tune—and odds are they can't wait to play against teams from outside of this six state region.

After winning their last two games in a row over other New England colleges (Holy Cross and Quinnipiac), the Friars traveled to New Hampshire in hopes of continuing their recent success. Unfortunately, the Friars left UNH last Friday with nothing to show for their efforts but a 2-0 loss to the Wildcats. PC came home to Glaxo Field on Sunday to host the No. 18 Connecticut Huskies in their first Big East game of the year and fell by the narrow margin of 1-0.

What made the UNH game so frustrating was the fact that the Friars felt they gave far from their best possible performance in a winnable game.

"We did not play one of our best games," junior center back and co-captain Leah Vieira said. "Give credit to UNH, they outplayed us. Both goals were



Freshman forward Kelly Pettersen and the Providence offense were slowed this week by UNH and UConn. Pettersen is part of a young strikeforce—five of the PC's seven goals have been scored by freshmen or sophomores.

TRACY DONADIO '06/The Cow

results of defensive breakdowns on our part though."

PC and UNH played 35 minutes without either team scoring a goal. The Wildcats broke the deadlock in the 36th minute and the teams went into halftime with UNH up 1-0. PC and UNH each had five shots in the first half.

Head coach Jim McGirr felt that his team "did not get into an early rhythm. It took us a while to get adjusted to their field. We could have had a more positive impact on the game with better execution."

Hey soccer fans, here is a viewing tip free of charge: the next time you attend a soccer game or watch one on television, notice how often a team scores in the first five minutes of a half and/or the last five minutes in a half. It is amazing how many times goals occur in this time that makes up only a ninth of the actual ninety minutes of a game.

Sense where this anecdote is going? The Wildcats extended their advantage 20 seconds into the second half, effectively putting the game away.

"We had just talked at halftime about

the adjustments we were going to make and before we knew it, the score was 2-0 and our heads were down," said Vieira.

Give credit to PC for fighting until the final whistle. They continued to put pressure on the UNH defense and it almost came to fruition when senior forward and co-captain Katherine Mahoney had a shot cleared off the Wildcats goal line in the 52nd minute.

The Friars had two more golden opportunities snuffed out as freshmen full-back Megan Mancarella took a shot from 15 yards out that hit the left post in the 70th minute. Finally, five minutes later PC saw an open net but couldn't get a handle on a loose ball in the Wildcats goal-mouth.

"Second half we played a lot better but we just didn't finish," Vieira said. The Friars' second half effort was admirable, but a simple lack of execution sealed the Friars' fate.

Sunday's game against UConn found the Friars' defense and goalkeeper standing tall despite constant offensive chances for the nationally-ranked Huskies. Sophomore goalkeeper Ashley Fedysyn finished the game with seven saves as UConn fired an incredible 25 shots on the Friars.

PC managed only one shot but it came agonizingly close to "changing the whole complexion of the game," as Fedysyn put it. Junior midfielder Erin Mastrodonato took a shot that was blocked by a Huskies defender in the 4th minute. Had it gotten through, it looked ticketed for the back of the net.

The PC defense and Fedysyn held on for almost the entire first half but UConn put in their only goal of the game in the 44th minute (remember the little

FRIARS/Page 21